

FRIDAY JUNE 5TH 2020
QUIRINDI HIGH SCHOOL
Newsletter



Term 2 - Week 6

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Well this is the first newsletter since being back at school. Students have been settling back in. School still looks a bit different for students with enhanced cleaning and a number of restrictions on the activities that we can be involved in. We receive regular updates from the Department of Education about what we are able to do.

Year 12 have many questions about graduation and formals. At this point in time we do not have answers for them but as we receive advice we will let students and families know. We have some contingency plans if we are not able to go ahead with these events.

We have cancelled all end of year excursions for 2020. We understand this is disappointing for many students. Current advice from the Department of Education is that all excursions are cancelled.

Last week we acknowledge Reconciliation Week. One of the many wonderful things about Quirindi High School is the seamless way Aboriginal knowledge, practice and culture, particularly language are a part of the everyday fabric that makes up our school. If you have the opportunity to view our Facebook page, have a look at the great production put together by MegO and the media team. Meg was able to involve staff and students in capturing their understanding of reconciliation. I would say that it is particularly pertinent with the coverage of current world events.

I have reflected so many times recently on how lucky we are to live in Australia but also in a country area. We have a country that offers its citizens high quality free education and health care. All in all I would really have to say we are a moderate society with an egalitarian outlook. It is the multicultural nature of our society that makes Australia such an interesting place to live in.

I have reflected on the students who have passed through the doors in my four years at QHS. So many have gone on to achieve their goals. I particularly note the success our students experience in gaining entry to university and how well they do in their chosen courses. We are going to do some follow up stories about our students who have gone onto tertiary education. Many of the current year 12 students have decided on their university course and on the university they would like to attend and the school has been able to facilitate contact with the institutions. It is great knowing that those Quirindi High School students choosing a tertiary pathway have such huge success in gaining entry and completion of courses.

Ian Worley - Principal



BOOK BOOK BOOK



GIFT OF MUSIC - TECHNOLOGY



SCHOOL BASED TRAINEESHIPS



WINGHAM BEEF WEEK SUCCESS



STAFF VACCINATIONS

QUIRINDI HIGH SCHOOL

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CLEANING AND HYGIENE SUPPLIES

In many ways, QHS has been busy prepping for the return of students, including QHS staff member Mrs Lawlor who has coordinated personalised cleaning products for staff.

As school returned to capacity, there was increased professional cleaning occurring in target areas including high-touch areas and other hard surfaces, door handles, lockers, light switches and handrails in stairways and movement areas.

There is also be additional cleaning of toilets.

There is hand sanitiser available for student use and students are also encouraged to bring their own sanitiser and wipes.



GIFT OF MORE THAN MUSIC

QHS would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to the exceptional generosity of 'Gift of Music' part of Rural Aid for their significant donation - last term - towards the purchase of laptops for students at the school.

The generous donation of over \$40,000.00 was used to purchase additional laptops that have been made available to students to assist them with their online learning.

Students have been using the laptops both at home and at school, as transition to return to school continues.

Thank you Gift of Music for once again assisting the students at our school.

Thank you also to our teachers and staff who worked around the clock to set up the computers for our students... especially our IT guru, Mr Maczi, who has not had much sleep over the past 5 weeks as the demand on his immeasurable IT skills has been intense with the move to online learning.

CONFIRMATION OF ENTRIES

QHS Careers Advisor, Ms Saunders is currently undertaking Term 2 confirmation of entries.

All year 11 and 12 students are required to go onto Google Classroom and complete their confirmation of entries on Google forms as Ms Saunders needs to cross check your enrolments on NESA to ensure all students are correctly enrolled into the right courses for their HSC Exams.

"You must be entered with NESA for all courses you are attempting this year. This includes any courses outside your school that your principal has approved, eg VET or distance education courses and other."

Students must carefully check all personal details such as name, date of birth, address and contact details.

Advise Mrs Saunders if any of these need to change. You must sign the declaration on the Confirmation of Entry and return it to your school.



COOKING WITH SOUL

During remote online learning, QHS students have been undertaking some fantastic Year 9/10 'Food On Trend' and 'Café Minimbah' Hospitality classes.

'Food On Trend' students were working on 'Cooking from the Past' during their remote learning.

They contacted an elderly family member or neighbour by phone - someone who may have needed a call and friendly conversation during isolation - asked for a favourite recipe from them, and if the student had the ingredients in their cupboards they created the recipe and shared images of the food on their online teams page.

"Students then worked on a 14 day food isolation package to put together for COVID-19,

where they created meals from what they had in their cupboards."

Also, 'Year 9/10 Café Minimbah' students also worked on an 'Isolation Food Challenge', that consisted of three challenges a week and extension activities. Some challenges included:

- To use dry heat methods of cookery: make a dish and post on teams eg, cake.
- Use simple cutting methods shown in a video and cut a carrot for snacks.

"Students found the challenges interesting, informative and engaging, there was some healthy competition between students and they were able to use whatever they had in their pantry, thus making it equitable," said

Mrs Lawson, who added said she has been impressed with student learning during this unusual time.

"Their engagement in all activities, their questions as well as the encouragement of parents (such as the Year 8 students that cooked together with their mum, Farr family) was all really positive."

"Students can look forward to practical lessons at QHS again, but not like they were...there will be new social distancing rules and individual practical work. Helen and Sandy have been hard at work sanitising and getting all stations up and ready for their return," concluded Mrs Lawson.

Well done students and teachers.



Principal, Mr Ian Worley welcomed Quirindi High School students back last week.

"It's great to have everyone back – we're very happy to see you all. We are all looking forward to getting back into the classroom. School looks, and will continue to look different while COVID-19 is still a concern - and we all continue to work together to maintain the high standard of learning and opportunities for you all."

Quirindi High School staff and students were asked to follow social distancing guidelines – with all requested to be mindful of personal space, and to undertake hand sanitising each time they enter a classroom.

"There are elderly and unwell people in our communities and in your families and you are encouraged to do all you can to protect the vulnerable as well as your family and yourselves."

Students were informed at assembly, that there will be no Combined High Schools or Interschool Sports events, that Debating has been cancelled and there will be no Athletics Carnival or end of year excursions.

Principal Worley also reminded students that no parents are allowed in the school without a pre-arranged meeting - restrictions apply – parents/carers must phone the school if they have any questions as there is limited face-to-face contact at this stage.

In roll-call this week, Quirindi High School students undertook a survey on their experiences to online learning from home.

Quirindi High School, Head Teacher, Instructional Leader, Ms Jen Lees added the purpose of the survey is for the school to obtain feedback on how students have connected with their learning over the past few months.

"Our aim – through the survey – is to better understand, which teacher strategies connected most with our students ability to learn. Staff will share these techniques with one-another to continue to improve. We are always planning ahead for different scenarios and ways to improve," said Ms Lees.

Year Advisors also met with their students, this morning to welcome students back, outline expectations and offer support.

Year 11, Advisor, Mr Hamilton offered an informative talk to his students.

"Students looking to attend University or after school study – have a swathe of opportunities that have opened up. Stay focussed on your education and your direction and it will positively change your future. The unemployment situation in Australia at present is increasing – we are here as teachers to assist you encourage you, so take time to think about what you want for your future," said Mr Hamilton.

"Thank you students for a great first day back at school, we understand it has been a big step for many of you. We are all here to support one-another and continue to be the best school community we can possibly be," concluded Principal Worley.



HSC ENGLISH LECTURES

Due to COVID 19, the attached lectures have been made FREE to all registered HSC students.

These lectures are usually presented on one day in Sydney for approximately \$70 as well as transport and accommodation.

This year all English Advanced and English Standard students need to do is... speak with their teachers to register for the FREE lectures.

The recorded lectures will be available for students to view over 5 days (15-19th June). Students will be able to view them and take their own notes during this time.

English Advanced will have access to lectures on Plath/Hughes, Emma, Writing for HSC English and Study Tips and Craft of Writing (Advanced).

English Standard will have access to lecture on One Night the Moon, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time, Writing for HSC English and Study Tips and Craft of Writing (Standard).

***Tomorrow, Friday 26 May, Year 12 English Advanced and Standard students will be discussing online access to HSC English Lectures with their teachers - and are encouraged to take up this opportunity.

"Teachers are happy to register the students but, the teacher will need the students to supply them with a mobile phone number for registration. We encourage our students to speak to their teacher and take part in this opportunity," said QHS Head teacher, Mrs Stenner.

HSC Student Online Learning: Paper 2 Modules - Individual Student bookings only

WHEN: 15th – 19th June 2020 - Registrants will be able to access the recordings at any time over these 5 days.

WHERE: At school or home computer.

MATHS IS everywhere



QHS Mathematics students in Year 7 are about to get creative with their learning, using items they have at home - including breakfast cereals, chalk and even highly sought after toilet rolls when relating it to 'displaying and interpreting data'.

"Students have been collecting data on their families favourite meal of the day. The current statistics from the survey state that dinner is the most preferred meal of the day for families at QHS," said Head Teacher Mathematics Mrs Robertson.

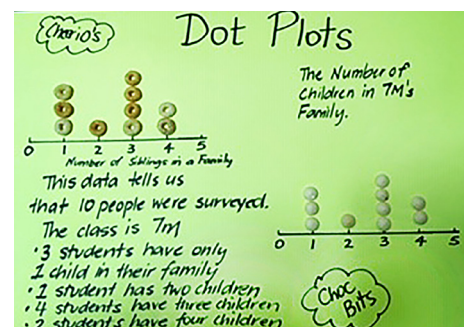
Next week, students will be encouraged to participate in a competition to improvise - and be creative - in designing a graph from the learning outcomes they have experienced over the past two weeks.

Some examples - see photos below relating to different survey data, but added to give you some inspo - supplied by Mrs Robertson have

been included to set students on a path of discovery to display.

Students MUST get their data in by tomorrow - to their google classroom - for the results of the current survey - students will be able to upload their creative photos to the same classroom for this exciting challenge.

We can't wait to see how creative our students get with their learning, great project QHS Mathematics!



MATHS PROBLEM OF THE WEEK

Social Distancing

The QHS Mathematics Department are putting a positive spin on distancing requirements as part of learning at the school.

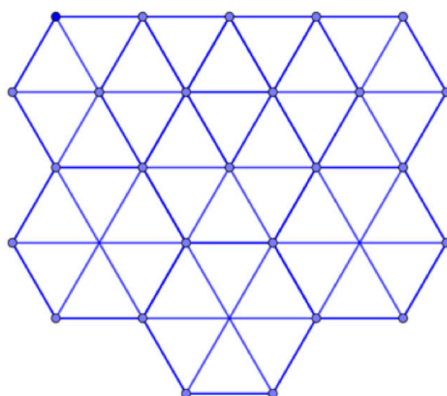
Students were given a problem to solve on the maximum number of people allowed within 1.5m of one-another.

The solution to the QHS Mathematics Department Social Distancing Problem is pictured as a diagram where each person will have six people surrounding them who are 1.5m apart.

Congratulations to James Redgrove who was the first student to submit a correct solution to the problem and will receive a canteen voucher and Thank you to teacher, Mr Roberts for his interest in the social distancing problem.

Thank you also to Year 11 Advanced Mathematics for modelling the problem as part of their Trigonometry investigation in Week 5 to prove 'Mathematical Theorems used in Mathematics'.

Well done all and thank you also to Head Teacher Mathematics, Ms Robertson for promoting these creative learning experiences for our students.



BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

QHS English faculty are excited about the delivery of a donation of novels for student use. "The novels will be used in the English classrooms as reading material for all students when they are engaging in their Response Journal activities," said Head Teacher English, Mrs Stenner - pictured here with fellow Teacher, Mrs Harris.

The three boxes of novels, varying in terms of reading interests and abilities will be well received by the students on their return to school next week.

"We would like to thank the local branch of the CWA and Colleen Wills, the Sydney Publishing House and Kids West Blacktown for the donation of books and for coordinating distribution to the High School." Fantastic!



ART + DRAMA + MUSIC

QHS Teachers + Year 12 Major project students + Support Unit students + students of essential workers are all working hard in the school grounds today, including teachers pictured here: Mr Field - Art, Miss Cooper – Drama and Mr Turner – Music.

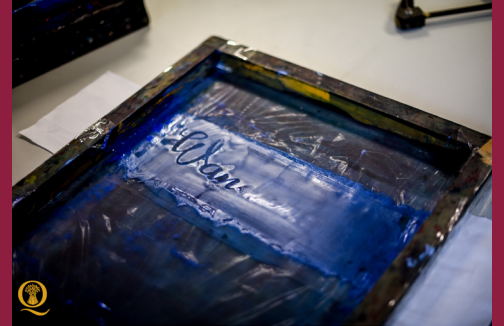
It's certainly reintroduced life and energy into the school grounds as teachers and students undertake face-to-face teaching/learning and all teachers say they are thrilled to be back face-to-face with students.



MAJOR PROJECTS

QHS HSC students undertook Major Project experimentation last week.

"Students really worked well undertaking tests and trials with laser printing, screen printing and fabric dyeing as part of their HSC today," said Head Teacher Technology and Applied Sciences, Mrs Cowan. Great work students and teachers.



GREAT JOB STUDENTS

QHS has a large number of School-Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBATs) this year.

Participants sign into a contract with their employer - work one day a week during each school term and are required to work a minimum half of their school holidays - plus they attend school and work toward completing their HSC and attend TAFE (if TAFE is their RTO Training provider).

School-Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships are a terrific way for a student to get a head-start in an industry of their choice.

QHS HSC Students have been working extra hard to complete all required working days/hours during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

"Some Year 11 SBATs working days have been temporarily suspended due to the pandemic, but, they are looking forward to getting back to work," said QHS Careers Advisor/VET Coordinator Ms Saunders, who recently spoke to employers gaining feedback and updates on student progress. "Congratulations to our students, as their employers had great feedback in relation

to their performance and their work ethic within their industry of employment," said Ms Saunders.

Currently all SBATs participants are encouraged to continue to work as much as they can, to maintain their logbook and their working hours up to date.

Participants are also encouraged to attend their Google classroom session and email their completed tasks to their teachers as well as attend required Microsoft TEAMS /Meets with class teachers. This is a requirement as part of their traineeship/Apprenticeship.

If any students have issues or concerns in either: logging onto TAFE or completing school work please contact Ms Saunders via email or via contacting the High School on 6746 1177 and asking for a message to be sent on.

SBATs must send Ms Saunders a message if they are unable to work due to illness, and make sure they notify her of any other work days undertaken that are not their normal working day.

"Well done students, I am here to support you and very proud of your efforts during this time," said Ms Saunders.





Quirindi High School is embracing this year's 'Reconciliation Week' theme of 'In this Together' through its expansion of the local Gamilaraay language in the school community and the classroom.

Today, students, teachers and staff were captured at Quirindi High School holding a chalkboard listing their chosen word to express what reconciliation means to them.

QHS Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer, Mrs Megan Outerbridge, said 'We are all in this together'... has been a consistent message at QHS, with school rooms named and labelled in Gamilaraay language names for animals and the language being shared across the school and wider community through the school 'Gamilaraay Word of the Week'.

"With the COVID-19 pandemic, society has changed and we have had time to reflect and clarify what is really important to us – it's you, it's me, it's friends and its family, people drive our nation and humanity teaches us so much about reconciling with the sometimes hurtful pasts," said Mrs Megan Outerbridge, who continued... "We will never ignore the past but use it to our advantage to move forward together."

As a school, QHS shares diversity every day, which in turn positively shapes our students minds.

"We offer a multitude cultural experiences which has made us stronger, closer, more tolerant and

more powerful as mankind," said Mrs Megan Outerbridge.

As well as the school running successful student learning of the local Gamilaraay language, QHS staff have entered into a reconciliation cultural movement through the learning of the local Aboriginal language.

"This learning has created ownership, relationships, conversation, enlightenment, passion for language and more importantly.... a continued passion for teaching. Our sharing has become an everyday practice and when we see each other its created close connections which matter," said Mrs Megan Outerbridge, who also receives learning requests about new words from the staff.

QHS Head Teacher Instructional Leadership, Miss Lees is thriving on the cultural language lessons and her enthusiasm for her new found interest in Gamilaraay language inspiring.

As an experienced teacher of over 15 years, Ms Lees said... "being part of the Gamilaraay language cultural classes is such a refreshing and valuable journey of immense benefit to my understanding of both Aboriginal culture and to my teaching practice."

Ms Lees added that this opportunity and learning has heightened... "a sense of connection both 'With Country' and in connection with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students."

Reconciliation is a journey for all Australians

– as individuals, families, communities, organisations and importantly as a nation. At the heart of this journey are relationships between the broader Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

"Thank you to the staff who have taken the time to join the conversation but more importantly used the language in their lessons and life!! Stay tuned over the next couple of weeks to see some of our staff present our 'Words of the Week'," concluded Mrs Megan Outerbridge.

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is held from 27 May to 3 June each year.

It is a time for all Australians to reflect on our shared histories, cultures and achievements and to explore how each of us can join the national reconciliation journey.

Preceded by National Sorry Day on 26 May, NRW is bookended by two key events in Australia's history, which provide strong symbols for reconciliation:

- * 27 May 1967 – the referendum that saw more than 90 per cent of Australians vote to give the Australian Government power to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and recognise them in the census.

- * 3 June 1992 – the Australian High Court delivered the Mabo decision, which recognised that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have a special relationship with the land. This paved the way for land rights or Native Title.



QHS SUCCESS *at Wingham Beef Week*



QHS Students and Primary Industries teacher, Miss Holly Sozou spent months preparing their animals for show at the Wingham Beef Week – due to Covid 19 QHS, students could not attend this year, however they sent five livestock to the event.

With QHS Agriculture Farm Manager, Mr Peter Hird overseeing the feeding regime. When it came to Wingham Beef Week the entire team had their cattle beautifully prepared.

QHS sent four steers and one heifer to be judged on the hook at Wingham.

In the heavy to middle weight class, QHS did extremely well winning the carcass competition in a large class with over 50 entries with a Limousin/Angus heifer breed by Andrew Harries from Harlees Limousin stud – Mr Harries is also the schools Science/Agriculture head teacher.

The school also placed 4th in the same class with an Apricot Limousin steer bred by Colin McGilchrist from Backcreek Limousin stud who is a previous Agriculture teacher from Quirindi High School – some people might be forgiven to think he still works at the school, as he is still very dedicated to our school.

Another great result was the QHS Limousin/Angus heifer winning the Heavyweight jackpot winning \$420.

Thanks from the school must go to Mr Michael Robinson and the Ranclaud Family for their donation of hay to the QHS Agricultural Farm during the dry times..

To Farm Manager Mr Peter Hird, the teachers, students and the QHS community are grateful for your constant dedication to keep the farm ticking over so well without these kind donations

- schools would find it challenging to feed livestock.

QHS Primary Industries teacher Miss Sozou would also like to thank Mr Hird for feeding all of the livestock... “so that when we do return to face-to-face learning there will be so much for the students to come back to.”

The next show will be the Beef Boonanza at Scone, however this depends on health regulations.

CAPTION: QHS Cattle Team members, Macey Holden, Faith Green, Grace Hutchins, Sarah Hutchins, Brad Forsyth, QHS Primary Industries teacher, Miss Holly Sozou, QHS Agricultural farm Manager Mr Peter Hird and Mr Colin McGilchrist pictured with some of the upcoming QHS show cattle at the Agriculture Farm this week.



Recently QHS staff received Flu vaccinations provided by Walhealth.

“Staff wellbeing is a huge part of our school community and looking after ourselves and each-other is essential - as is ensuring further protection for our students from the spread of any flu. By keeping ourselves healthy also frees up the medical system – an important consideration at this time,” MegO, QHS Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer.

Walhealth has been providing vaccination clinics in the Liverpool Plains area for 4 weeks and approximately 400 vaccinations have been administered to help protect us all.

Our school community would like to thank Walhealth for making the time to keep us at our best so we can produce more great learning for our students.

Thank you also to our staff for looking after your health.



QHS will look a little different for students returning, with the change of the seasons bringing a stunning Autumn showcase to the grounds and completion of the new roof on the school hall. Looking good QHS.



QHS Teacher, Mr Adam Field has been appointed to the role of Year 10 Student Advisor.

Mr Field - who takes over from Mrs Reichel and Mrs Stewart - is looking forward to the opportunity to support students, parents and staff through the role over the next few years.

Year Advisors also guide students to become responsible leaders. This is done by serving as a positive role model, fostering positive relationships among group members and motivating students to carry out their plans to achieve their goals.

As a teacher of some fifteen years at QHS, Mr Field has previous experience in the role of Year Advisor, which, he says... "provides me with the ability to support our current Year 10 students throughout their oncoming senior years at Quirindi High."

As an avid hiker, Mr Field - who last year travelled to Nepal and trekked to the famous Everest Base Camp - added being involved in a regular fitness regime can assist students in making more competent decisions and being more prompt in their school work.

With Year 10 students looking to complete the mandatory curriculum requirements towards their Record of School Achievement (RoSA), students also will need to start thinking about their subject choices for next year.

"Subject selections will be made by students depending on their academic interests and possible future career options that they may wish to pursue."

Year Advisers are responsible for the overall wellbeing and its impacts on the learning of the students in their representative year group and are able to be contacted through the front office at Quirindi High on 67461177.

"Quirindi High's commitment to providing the best educational setting is always changing and evolving. I feel respected and valued by the school community for the skills and attributes that I bring to my teaching role," concluded Mr Field.

Congratulations Mr Field on your appointment to the role.

LEARNING Dispositions

QHS Head Teacher, Instructional Leader, Ms Lees offers an eloquent update on the six QHS Learning Dispositions, that were chosen by students as areas of focus.

"Reflecting on pre-COVID-19 schooling, our current online teaching/learning situation, plus taking into account the future of teaching/learning at QHS, our Learning Dispositions offer our school community a continuity in education and are extremely relevant life skills, especially in today's learning environment," said Ms Lees.

QHS six focus areas for our Learning

Dispositions encouraged and supported in our teachers/students are:

Resilience
Curiosity
Persistence
Self-Regulation
Taking Risks
Reflection

Thank you Ms Lees for making this informative video to inform the wider QHS community on the great Learning Dispositions here at QHS as we continue to offer educational excellence in any learning environment.

Welcome Mr Griffiths

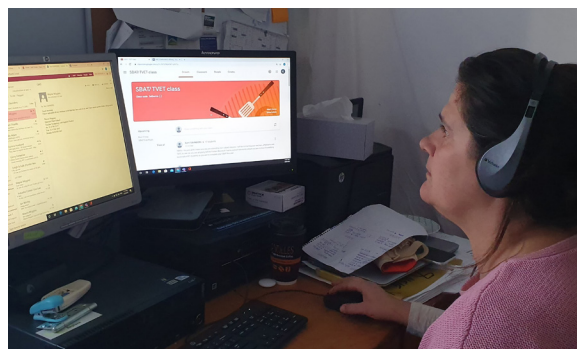
Mr Griffiths has joined the QHS Mathematics Department as Mrs Reichel heads on maternity leave.

Embracing online teaching, and making his lessons engaging to reinforce learning concepts are just some of the strengths Mr Griffiths brings to the role.

"Having been a teacher for over four decades - the current online learning it something totally different and demanding on all of us and I feel we will become stronger for it," said Mr Griffiths, who holds four degrees, including including a Bachelor of Education from Macquarie University, a Bachelor of Social Science from the University of New England, Bachelor of Economics, from the University of New England and a Masters of Commerce from University NSW as well as a TESOL English as Second language from Cambridge.

Mr Griffiths continued he is excited to be here and is looking forward to meeting and engaging with students who want to improve themselves academically in mathematics.

Welcome to QHS Mr Griffiths.



Term 2 2020

Wk 6 B June 1 - June 5
Wk 7 A June 8 - June 12
Wk 8 B June 15 - June 19
Wk 9 A June 22 - June 26
Wk 10 June 29 - July 3

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

CAREERS CATCH-UP

QHS Careers Advisor, Ms Saunders is currently out and about communicating with School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBAT) students and their employers - and will be conducting an SBAT catch-up for all school based trainees via a Google Teams meeting on Friday at 4.00pm.

"Students and employers have done exceptionally well with their SBAT's through this difficult time - congratulations to you all," said Ms Saunders who continued that she is looking forward to the teams meeting on Friday.

All SBAT students have joined Teams previously - be on Teams at 4.00pm this Friday and Ms Saunders will dial in - you can then join the meeting.