

CONTACT



VOLUME 21—ISSUE 1

10 FEBRUARY 2012

NSW Department of Education & Training

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

WELCOME BACK TO THE 2012 SCHOOL YEAR

Welcome back to all of our students, those returning and all of the students who are here for the first time. Presently we are busy enrolling students who have moved into the area, setting up classes and finalising timetables.

A special welcome to our new staff: Miss Emily Gray joins the English faculty replacing Toyer Christian who transferred to Wyndham College. Ms Phillipa Spring has moved over from the senior campus to join our CAPA staff, replacing Stacey Volpes who resigned from teaching at the beginning of last year. In TAS we formally welcome Mr Bill Cameron and Mr Anthony Williamson who have filled the vacancies left by Stephen Paulo and Tim Easterbrook. We also welcome Ms Kuldeep Khehra from Colyton High School as our new Head Teacher Mathematics, she is joined by Mrs Louise Grantham replacing Brett Fuoco who is now teaching in the Catholic system. Our new Support Unit will be ably led by Ms Jennifer Reid with Ms Margie Beang from Colo HS and Mr Murkesh Charan from Bennett Road PS working with her. The new support unit also has the assistance of Ms Coby Ferretti from Chifley College Mt Druitt and Mrs Elaine Cranfield as our new SLSOs. In the print room Ms Erica Hall has assumed the vacancy created by Cathy Jones' promotion to School Admin Manager and we are very happy she has joined our hardworking SASS team.

Mr Blench and Ms Reid have formed a merit selection panel to appoint a PE replacement created by the retirement of Mrs Piper and the school is currently processing the vacancy created by Mr Semaan's transfer to Randwick Boy HS at the end of last year.

SCHOOL PRIORITIES IN 2012

1. Literacy & Numeracy
2. Teacher Quality & Leadership
3. Student Engagement and Attainment
4. Aboriginal Education

These priority areas are built on the school's commitment to ensuring the following educational environment for our students:

Upcoming Events

10 February
Swimming Carnival
Contact Issued
Year 6 taster day

13 February/12 March
P&C Meeting—7pm

22 February
School Photo Day

24 February & 9 March
Contact Issued

29 February
School Photo Backup day

2 March
Zone Swimming

6 March
Year 5 & 6 Information
Evening

10 March
Musical Photos

15 March
Year 7 Selective HS test

16 March
Year 7 Vaccinations

- Improved levels of numeracy and literacy achievement for every student.
- Students learn in a Safe, Motivated, Academic, Respectful and Tolerant (SMART) community.
- A curriculum that is responsive and reflects the needs of students with extensive technology integrated into all quality teaching and learning.
- Strong educational learning communities with collegiate schools, partner primary schools and the wider community.
- School culture and practice that respects and responds to every student's aspirations and learning potential and that fully prepares our students for the challenges of global citizenry of the 21st century.
- Continuum of learning from 7 – 10 which provides for every student with particular emphasis on transition points.
- A team of professional educators and administrators working together for the benefit of all our students.

RENOVATIONS TO OUR FRONT OFFICE

Over the Christmas break we have had some renovations done to our front office. Whilst there is still some work to be done, Mrs Jones has done an excellent job coordinating the whole process giving us a more professional and modern office environment.

SCHOOL FEES AND REFUND POLICY

Parents are reminded that our Excursion Refund Policy is currently available on the school website. Please make sure you are familiar with this policy when making a commitment to send your child on a school organised activity or excursion. As it is the beginning of another school year and as parents you are busy forking out the costs for new uniforms, school books, shoes etc, it is appropriate to again stress the importance of school fees and I am not referring to the school contribution but the fees incurred by your child's participation in a subject that uses consumables. As a school we cannot continue to fund many of the programs and the extensive curriculum choices we offer to our students unless there is a greater commitment by parents and students to meet the costs of these subjects. Students will not be allowed to undertake the practical activities in many of our subjects until the fees are paid for those consumable items in 2012. I understand some families find the costs a real challenge and that is why subjects with no costs are available for student selection and we also offer families the opportunity to pay off the elective fees, a couple of dollars every few weeks.

I encourage parents to contact me directly if there is any particular concern with the payment of elective fees. Please remember those parents who can support the school by paying the general contribution in Term 1 only pay \$60 instead of \$80. Student Assistance Funds given to the school will not be available for students to participate in fee paying electives, these funds will be used to support families with uniform issues or other financial hardships.

GETTING OFF TO A GOOD START

Wondering how to help your kids do well at home and at school this year? The Department's parent resource School A to Z has a webcast full of expert tips for you to help your children have a more successful year.

The 'Getting off to a great start webcast' has a number of chapters on how to motivate children for learning, advice on peer relationships and how to handle bullying, communicating with children and the importance of strong home-school relationships.

The expert panel features advice from a child psychologist, an experienced family doctor and the Department's Deputy Director-General (Schools) Greg Prior.

Watch the webcast at: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/getting-off-to-a-good-start>



✉ 70 Lalor Road, QUAKERS HILL NSW 2763

☎ (02) 9837 1533

📠 (02) 9837 1747

✉ quakershil-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Principal

Lauretta Claus

Deputy Principals

Robert Bredin (Yrs 8 & 10)

Therese Hourigan (Yrs 7 & 8)

P&C President

Jannette Nigl

School Captains

Alana Duncan & Luke Agius

The paid advertisements in this newsletter are not necessarily endorsed by this school although we thank our sponsors for their support.

NATIONAL YEAR OF READING 2012

This is the national year of reading and to celebrate, there is a host of literary-related events and competitions happening right around Australia. For an events calendar and more information go to: www.love2read.org.au. Why not make a late New Year resolution to read more yourself?

WE'VE GOT SCHOOL COVERED

Practical help for parents is available online at the School A to Z site. Created by the Department of Education and Communities, this is a thriving online community with comprehensive homework and school life support for parents that is easy to use, relevant and engaging. There are free apps to download, informative podcasts, videos and articles by experts in the field. Check it out and save it to your favourites: www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au

FAIR WORK CHECKS

Many teenagers undertake casual work. A helpful guide to how much they should be getting paid and the minimum conditions can be found at:

www.fairwork.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx

If you have any queries there is a helpline at 13 13 94. You can also lodge an online workplace complaint if you feel your child has been unfairly treated.

Have a great week

Lauretta Claus, Principal

KEY PERSONNEL TERM 1 2012

Ravensworth House Adviser	Tracey Drake (TAS)
Oberon House Adviser	Launce Roma (TAS)
Yallah House Adviser	Maria Romerosa (English)
Gundagai House Adviser	Brendan Hutton (Careers Adviser)
Bathurst House Adviser	Marissa Josselyn (CAPA)
Perisher House Adviser	Christopher Lloyd (Maths)
Year 7 Coordinator	Shelley Walker (Social Science)
Year 8 Coordinator	Oliver Meredith (TAS)
Year 9 Coordinator	Brendan Hewitt (TAS)
Year 10 Coordinator	Tim Macintyre (History)

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

WELCOME BACK TO THE SCHOOL YEAR FOR 2012

This year I will be the Deputy Principal supervising Years 7 & 9 with Mr Bredin as the Deputy Principal supervising Years 8 & 10. It is always an exciting time when everyone is well rested and motivated to take on the challenges of the new year (both staff and students). I would like to particularly congratulate our new Year 7 who have made such a positive impression on our school with their enthusiastic and diligent approach. Many thanks to Miss Walker (Year 7 Coordinator) for preparing her year group for their first week of high school. Also a big thank you to our peer support leaders (and Miss Romerosa) for assisting our Year 7 students during this week.

UNIFORM

Students have commenced the year looking particularly impressive in their school uniform. It always instils a sense of pride when we get positive comments from the public and school community regarding how great our students present themselves. The skills they learn regarding appropriate attire are certainly going to hold them in good stead when they are seeking career or employment opportunities in the future.

It is imperative that all students wear black **leather** upper school shoes that cover the whole foot in order to comply with OH&S regulations particularly in the Science and TAS labs. Canvas or fabric shoes do not comply with these regulations and therefore are not acceptable footwear for high school.

For those who may need to purchase uniform items, the shop is open on Mondays 8:10am – 9:30am

NEW SUPPORT UNIT

During 2011 our first autism class was established with resounding success. As a result, one support class has grown into a Support Unit of two autism classes (7W and 8W) and one multicategorical class (7M). The unit is lead by our newly appointed Head Teacher Jennifer Reid and staffed by two additional support teachers and four teachers' aides.

Certainly one of the highlights for 2011 was the participation of our autism students in the annual Year 7 Swim and Lifesaving Program held at Blacktown Pool. The progress and achievements of the students in this program was outstanding with much credit given to the student Junior Instructors from Years 9 & 10. Our Junior Instructors displayed exceptional development in leadership and mentoring skills as they instructed students with disabilities.

Therese Hourigan
Deputy Principal (Years 7 & 9)

NEWS FROM THE SRC

Within our school and community Quakers Hill High School's Student Representative Council have become well known for their commitment to serving their school body, bringing awareness to significant local and national causes and fundraising to help support important charities.

I am delighted to have been given the opportunity to lead the SRC as their coordinator and look forward to helping our student representatives achieve their goals for 2012.

This year is looking set to be filled with some amazing leadership opportunities for our SRC. Quakers Hill SRC members are already in the midst of organising and marketing our Valentine's Day Fundraiser and have begun proposing other events to promote inclusiveness within our school.

As student leadership is such an important role of the SRC's work, members are also looking forward to attending the SRC leadership camp to be held later this term. Over two days, students shall take part in sessions where they will learn about the qualities expected of a good leader and management skills. Information letters will shortly be issued to students regarding this camp and I encourage all members to attend.

During Term One, the opportunity will also be given to five Year Seven students to join the SRC. Selection of these student representatives shall take place in week 5. Further information regarding the nomination and voting process shall be issued on assembly in the following weeks.

Finally, all parents of the SRC will be invited to attend the SRC Induction Service later this term where students will be officially recognised in their role and issued with their badges.

I know that I speak on behalf of the SRC when I say, that we greatly look forward to serving the student body of Quakers Hill High School this year and hope that 2012 is a year that sees all of our members gain further leadership skills and take on new and exciting responsibilities.

Nicole Neylan
SRC Coordinator

2012 Soccer Registrations

Registration for the 2012 season will be starting soon

Marayong Caters for Players of All Age Groups ;
Under 6 thru to All Age, both Male and Female

Registration begins Saturday 28th Jan and every Sat. until the end of February
to be ready for the 2012 season

Times : - 09:30 am till 12:30 pm

Where : - Harvey Park (home ground)
Benalla Cres Marayong (off Quakers Rd)

Any Enquiries please do not hesitate to contact us on
mob. 0421 767 941 or 0408 225 168

Alternatively visit our Club website at www.bdsfa.com/marayong

Check the web page for **Online Rego** ; details and guides





Blacktown Premier Spurs Soccer Club

Players Wanted for Men, Ladies, Girls, Boys & Over 35 Men's teams.

Registration Dates – Marayong Park, Davis Road, Marayong

- Saturday, January 21st, 10am-2pm
- Sunday, February 5th, 10am-2pm
- Saturday, 11th February, 10am-2pm
- Sunday, 12th February, 10am-2pm

Contact:

Registrar: Karin Crisp – 0433742904

Secretary: Sam James - 0411308243

SUPER REGO DAY!!
FEBRUARY 5TH -
FREE BALL & SAUSAGE
SIZZLE FOR EVERY FULL
REGISTRATION!



KILDARE ROAD MEDICAL CENTRE

ALLIED HEALTH SERVICES EXTENDED

Our Allied Health Services are available throughout the week. Referrals can be made through a GP under Medicare or private appointments can be made by calling **8822 3000**.



Kildare Road Medical Centre
36 Kildare Road, Blacktown
(next to Westpoint, corner of
Kildare Road and Balmoral Street)

Ph: (02) 8822 3000

www.kildaremedical.com.au

Podiatrist – *Mondays and Saturdays*

Exercise Physiologist – *Tuesdays and Fridays*

Dietitian – *Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays*

Psychologists – *Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays*

Physiotherapists – *Monday to Saturday*

BULK-BILLING PRACTICE, WALK-INS WELCOME

OPEN 7 DAYS 8:00AM TO 8:00PM