

# CONTACT



VOLUME 20—ISSUE 16

19 OCTOBER 2012

NSW Department of Education & Training

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back everyone to Term 4. This term is historically a busy one with exams, Semester 2 reports, orientation days, swim school, planning for 2013 and of course, the formal celebrations of the school year – the Year 10 Formal, Graduation and Presentation Day. We have also introduced another formal event which will be our School Service Assembly on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December, which will be a formal occasion that recognises all the wonderful students who assist and provide a service to the school throughout the school year. Parents will receive invitations in the mail if their child is the recipient of awards at any of these formal assemblies.

### ENHANCEMENTS TO THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

Over the holiday break there have been some significant enhancements to the school grounds with landscaping work completed up between block G and H, as well as exterior painting across the school and painting of the student toilets. There is still more painting to be completed and also the cleaning of the colourbond walls of the library and school hall. These efforts to improve the school grounds reflect the school's commitment to make the learning environment for all our students, a warm, inclusive and comfortable one.

We continue to have to monitor graffiti across the school as unfortunately there are a few students who engage in this anti-social behaviour. Mr Stamatis in the Welfare faculty is currently running a program "Create Art Not Tags" to support students who have engaged in graffiti in the past. We are hoping this sort of proactive approach will encourage all students to support and maintain a positive learning environment.

### PARENT TEACHER EVENING

Many thanks to Mr Paul Sultana for organizing our Year 7 Parent Teacher Evening and thank you also to the parents who came up to the school to discuss your child's progress. Any parent who was unable to attend please feel free to call and make an appointment to meet with either your child's classroom teacher or House Adviser.

## Upcoming Events

**22—26 October**  
**Exam week 7-10**

**22 October**  
**Year 9 Exams**  
**English Periods 3 & 4**  
**Maths Periods 5 & 6**

**23 October**  
**Year 9 Exams**  
**HSIE Periods 1 & 2**  
**Science Periods 3 & 4**

**25 October**  
**Walk to Wyndham—ATSI students**

**29-30 October**  
**Peer Support training**

**2 November**  
**Contact Issued**

**7 November**  
**Accelerated parent evening—library 6-7pm**

**8 November**  
**Year 10 Collegiate exams**  
**English & Science**

**9 November**  
**Year 10 Collegiate exams**  
**Maths & History/Geog.**

## **OUTSTANDING ATTENDANCE TERM 3**

The following students have received special letters of commendation for outstanding attendance in Term 3. That means they have not missed attending school all term. Regular and timely student attendance continues to be a priority at Quakers Hill High School and Mr Nash, working hard with the Welfare team, Mrs Cooper and Mr Somerset, continue to strive for all students to be at school on time at least 85% of the time. Congratulations to the following Stage 5 students: Jeffrey Relf, Tarandeep Sahota, Karlie Scott, Brandon Kousanon, Jason Lee, Jack Steel, Brandon Dare, Chester Estrella, Emily Sunderland, Aleisha Thompson, Guy Watson, Emily Huang, Georgia Lee, Gabrielle Agujo, Mazehar Ahmadian, Sean Bernal, Courtney Blazevic, Alex Blundell, Caitlin Brown, Yazmin Chimanlal-Patel, Thomas Clark, Katelyn Commins, Anita Omoruyi-Uwaila, Ben Talintyre, Brayden Gauci, Racheal Hannaford, Ben Haycroft Gouda, Joshua Hinzmann, Daniel Hooke, Candice Saliba, Daniela Lungo, Benjamin Lee, Thomas McDonnell, Hannah McDougall, Kelly Nigl, Selin Kement, Mai Lam, Brooke McCoy, Callista Banks, Stephanie Cajucum, Holly Leikvold, Zoe Savage, Jordan Walcott, James Delfino, Nikhil Deo, Ryan Estrella, Jacob Ferguson, Jasleen Bhatti, Avnoor Guron, Callum Johnson, Breanne Silva, Shubhakaran Singh, Olympia Sandford, Jai Malo SkinnerTamanitoakul, Nina Vukasinovic, Sally Bowers, Raquel Gerial, Brent Mula, Louise Salaa, Daniel Bedford, Samantha Alderman, Zilan Hashemi, Leah Nazareth, Alanna Fleming, Jason Huang, Oliver Inthavong, Bhawantha Jayawardena.

## **SWIMMING FOR SURVIVAL**

Help keep your child safe this summer at Swim and Survive programs for all levels. The programs – taught by experienced, AUSTSWIM-qualified instructors – run November to February throughout NSW. <http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/swimandsurvive/>

## **MOVING INTO HIGH SCHOOL**

Starting high school means a new location, new friends and teachers, and new routines. In this video teachers talk about how you can help to make your child's move into high school less daunting. <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/starting-year-7>

## **TRADES FOR GIRLS**

AUSGRID, with the support of Women NSW, is running a work experience week for high school-aged girls who may be interested in taking up a trade. The week is open to young women 15 years of age or older, currently enrolled in school or TAFE and who want to try their hand at an electrical trade. <http://www.women.nsw.gov.au/news/items/ausgrid-joins-campaign-to-boost-the-number-of-women-in-trades>

## **DEGREES AT TAFE**

If your son or daughter is planning on getting a degree at TAFE, they will need to get their applications in by October. Find out about TAFE higher education courses and how to apply: <http://www.highered.tafensw.edu.au/degrees-at-tafe/courses/index.html#.UHZeJ65Nt8E>

## **VOCATIONAL COURSES**

If your child is in Year 10 or 11 next year they may be keen to take up a vocational course while at school. Watch the video to hear Worldskills medal winners talk about how their VETS courses have worked for them. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bV4dhWEN50M>

Have a good week.

**Lauretta Claus**

**Principal**

✉ 70 Lalor Road, QUAKERS HILL NSW 2763

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**Principal**

Lauretta Claus

**Deputy Principals**

Robert Bredin

Therese Hourigan

**P&C President**

Jannette Nigl

**School Captains**

Alana Duncan & Luke Agius

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## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### THE COLLEGIATE CERTIFICATE – DOES IT MATTER?

Parents would be aware that the School Certificate is no more. It has been replaced with the R.O.S.A. which students will receive if they exit the school system before their HSC. You would also be aware that our Year 10 students will sit for their Collegiate exams in Week 5 (when past students sat for their School Certificate).

As an educator and school leader I try to engage students in their work and emphasise both the value of the R.O.S.A. and the Collegiate exams and the consequences of not performing sufficiently well at school. It is HUGELY annoying therefore, when I am told by a student that "it doesn't matter" especially when they say that they were told this by their parents.

1. Until students attain their HSC, the R.O.S.A. is the highest qualification they possess. An interesting statistic: of the approximately 250 Quakers students who leave after Year 10, just 150 sit for their HSC at Wyndham College. So for over 100 of our ex-students, the R.O.S.A. is an extremely important document.
2. When students start in Year 11 (wherever that may be), their grades will more than likely determine who gets into classes. If 30 students want to get into a course of 20 vacancies the same students may not get their first choice. The Collegiate exams provide this important information to whichever senior school our Year 10s go to.
3. More importantly, a good attitude towards study is not a skill that can be switched on and off at will. Future success, whether at TAFE, HSC, university, apprenticeship or career, is more assured the earlier students develop that academic maturity. Leaving Year 10 with a slack attitude is a difficult habit to break.

### END-OF-YEAR-10-EXAMS: TIME TO GET FAIR DINKUM

Some students have worked hard since their Stage 5 studies commenced in Year 9. Some started getting serious in Year 10. Some still have not started. Either way, NOW is the time when the gaps in students' skills and knowledge can be filled. NOW is the time when revision is crucial so any disruption to learning NOW will be regarded even more seriously than usual. Encourage your child to be aware of and take advantage of revision sessions provided by staff. As just one example, I started evening science revision sessions this Monday from 6 to 9 pm and will continue these each Monday night until the exams in Week 5.

## AEROSOL DEODORANTS

An old concern that has reared its ugly head again. Aerosol sprays are banned at this school and yet many students still bring them to school.

Why do students so blatantly break school rules designed to protect them?

Why do students not think about how their actions can affect others?

I remember a previous occasion at our school when a student decided that it would be really smart to spray deodorant in the classroom. Such a pity that a friend in that class had severe asthma and required an ambulance. Imagine how YOU would feel if all of a sudden, in the safety of your classroom you couldn't breathe! How would YOU feel if that was YOUR friend in that ambulance? How would YOU feel if it was YOUR aerosol that put them in that ambulance?

As I say to students on assembly: "Look around you. Is that an asthma sufferer sitting next to you? You don't know. But I guarantee you that in every class you go to; every time you are in the change room after PE or sport there are at least THREE students whose health you could damage by using aerosol sprays."

Why do students not think about how their actions can affect others?

I challenge students to prove that they care about others by bringing to school a stick or roll-on deodorant.

**Robert Bredin**  
**Deputy Principal (Years 8 & 10)**

## HISTORY NEWS

Later in Term 4 on 29 November Year 7 and students completing elective History will be given the opportunity to visit the Alexander the Great exhibition at the Australian Museum. This exhibition contains over 400 items from the State Hermitage in Russia. This is one of those once in a lifetime exhibitions and we will see it in the first week it arrives in Sydney. Due to the special nature of the exhibition we have ordered tickets for our students but will have to promptly return those unused for sale to the general public. This means no payment can be accepted after the due date for payment. The due date for payment is 14 November. Year 7 are strongly encouraged to see this exhibition as their first Year 8 topic is Ancient Greece. Any student who has not received a note, is encouraged to visit the staff room to pick one up.

You can see a preview on <http://www.alexandersydney.com.au/the-exhibition/about/?q=/the-exhibition/>

**ROSA preparation and History.** For Year 10 we will be offering extra tutorial opportunities on Thursday afternoons for those students who wish some extra help and tuition in preparation for the Collegiate exam. A timetable of events will be notified to students in class. In order to kick start their preparation they are encouraged to visit the Board of Studies website and complete the online multiple choice questions. This is great to learn how to read exam questions and how to time yourself in an exam. This also prepares them for using the site as a tool for the senior curriculum. You will see additional material on this site as they upload samples of students' work in Year 11 and Year 12. This site is a great resource.

<http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/>





## QUAKERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL

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**PHONE:** (02) 9837 1533 **FAX:** (02) 9837 1747  
**E-MAIL:** quakershil-h.school@detnsw.edu.au  
**PRINCIPAL:** Ms Laurretta Claus



### ESSAonline 2012

Dear Parent or Carer

The Essential Secondary Science Assessment (ESSA) test for Year 8 students will be held on **Tuesday 13 November 2012**. The test takes approximately 80 minutes. The test is an interactive, multimedia test completed entirely on a computer. It is called ESSAonline.

ESSAonline contains multiple choice, short response and extended response tasks that are grouped around real-world issues, including a simulated investigation. This is a diagnostic test, with tasks framed on Stage 4 outcomes and essential content in the NSW *Science Years 7–10 Syllabus*. Students will be tested on their:

- knowledge and understanding of science
- understanding and skills in the process of scientific investigation
- ability to evaluate evidence, make judgements and think critically
- ability to access information and communicate scientific ideas.

Students also complete a survey about their opinions, attitudes and values.

Since students complete ESSAonline on a computer, they will not need writing materials. However, each student needs to bring **headphones or ear buds** that plug into a school computer. Ear buds for an iPod or portable player are suitable. If your child has a disability that needs special consideration or has been educated in English for less than one year, please contact your child's school to discuss special provisions or possible exemption from the test.

Results of the test will be available during Term 1 2013. Information about each student is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that the right to privacy of all students is maintained. A personal report for each student will be sent to parents/carers to describe the science knowledge and skills demonstrated by the student in the test. There will also be information about how your child's results compare with overall performance of all students in the test. You will be invited to complete a parent survey about the test and science learning. The principal of your child's school is able to provide you with more details about the ESSA program if you require additional information.

Yours sincerely

Robert Cordaiy  
**Manager, Contracts Development and Test Administration**  
Educational Measurement and School Accountability Directorate

**QUAKERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL**  
**70 Lalor Road, Quakers Hill NSW 2763 PHONE: (02) 9837 1533 FAX: (02) 9837 1747**  
**PRINCIPAL: Ms Lauretta Claus**

**Supporting Students through the Learning and Support Team**

**1. The Role of the Learning and Support Team**

Students at Quakers Hill High School achieve maximum outcomes when they are able to work in a caring, secure and supportive environment. The whole school community works together to provide quality educational programs and to meet the personal, social and learning needs of all students. Our Learning and Support Team is a group that meets regularly to discuss specific strategies to assist students requiring additional support in areas of learning and behaviour. The Learning and Support Team coordinates the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of learning support plans.

**2. Process of Referral to the Learning and Support Team**

Students requiring additional support at school may be identified by teachers and/or parents. Through teacher and parent consultation these students may be referred to the school's Learning and Support Team. The Learning and Support Team then discusses the most appropriate form of support and intervention for the student and communicates this outcome to parents/carers.

In some cases a referral to the Learning and Support Team may result in a referral to the school counsellor. In these cases, written permission will be sought from parents/carers. All referrals to the school counsellor are prioritised by the Learning and Support Team according to level of need at school. Following intervention by the school counsellor parents will be invited to discuss the outcome of this intervention with the counsellor and be provided, in many cases, with a written report.

Should there be a counsellor recommendation for further intervention through a non-DEC service provider (e.g. paediatrician) then this report may be used to provide information to inform additional assessment. The school counsellor, with parent/carer permission, will liaise with outside service providers, as required/requested.

As the school counsellor is employed by The Department of Education and Communities they work in response to referrals from the Learning and Support Team, and are not in a position to respond to requests for assessment from outside service providers. Parents/carers however, may feel free to discuss any issue affecting their child with the classroom teacher in order to determine whether a referral to the Learning and Support Team may be appropriate. The Learning and Support Team will then discuss what intervention is appropriate.

**3. Requests for Information from non-DEC Service Providers**

Parents may choose to independently seek intervention through a non-DEC service provider independent of a school referral to the Learning and Support Team. In some cases, outside professionals will then provide parents with questionnaires to hand to the class teacher, or may request other forms of information from the school. All such requests **MUST** be made through the principal.



Due to issues of privacy and confidentiality surrounding the release of information, in addition to considerations of teacher workload, parents/carers are kindly requested to ensure that the following protocols are observed:

- The service provider is requested to forward a letter addressed to the principal outlining what information and who is required to complete the information. When particular forms are required to be completed these need to be included in the letter of request and not handed to the classroom teacher
- The parent/legal carer must provide written permission for the release of information
- A return name and address of the service provider is required for confidential return of information through the principal
- All information exchanged will be in writing
- Please allow at least 2 to 4 weeks prior to a further appointment for information to be collected and sent

**Note:** Letters to service providers outlining the above protocols, together with permission to release information proformas are available from the front office. You are welcome to collect this package prior to your child's first appointment with an outside service provider



**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](http://www.kildaremedical.com.au)

## **KILDARE ROAD MEDICAL CENTRE**

### **DIABETES GROUP EDUCATION COURSES**

- BULK BILLED
- 8 sessions: 4 with a Dietitian and 4 with an Exercise Physiologist
- Focus on healthy food choices, suitable food alternatives, food labeling, D-tick and GI symbols, eating plans
- Practical advice and demonstrations of exercises to suit all fitness levels
- Starting **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October** - *join any time*
- All sessions at KRMC at 6:00pm on Wednesdays
- GP referral necessary

We are committed to the care of people with chronic illness.

**For more information, please call Reception on 8822 3000**

**BULK-BILLING PRACTICE, WALK-INS WELCOME**

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

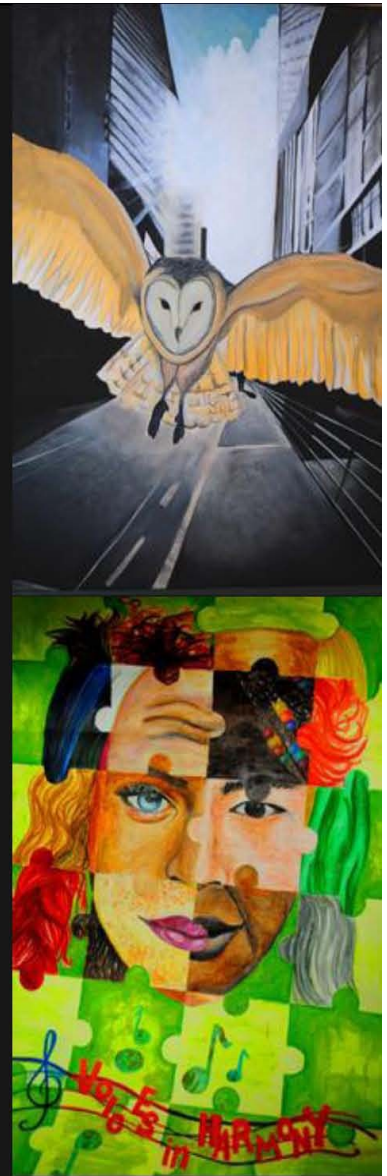
CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

**QHHS**  
**CREATIVE AND**  
**PERFORMING ARTS**  
**EVENING**  
**IS BACK!**

**WHEN:** Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November

**TIME:** 5 – 8 pm

**WHERE:** School Hall



COME AND SEE THE  
VAST ARRAY OF TALENT  
THAT OUR VISUAL ARTS,  
MUSIC, DRAMA AND  
DANCE STUDENTS HAVE  
TO OFFER

**GOLD COIN DONATION APPRECIATED**



# **Quakers Hill High School P & C Uniform Shop Opening Hours**

Open Every Monday Morning until 17th December 2012

8.10am-9.30am

Also open end of term on the  
Pupil Free Days 20th and 21st Dec  
9am—10am

## **2013 Year 7 Information Night**

Wednesday 28th November 2012

Open 5.30pm - 9pm

## **Special Opening Hours 2013**

School Holidays - Wednesday 23rd, Thursday 24th  
and Friday 25th January – 8am-1pm

Tuesday 29th January (Pupil free day) 2pm—4pm

Wednesday 30th January (Yr 7 start) 2pm—4pm

Thursday 31st January (Yrs 8-10 start) 2pm—4pm

## **Return to Normal Hours**

Monday 4th February: 8.10am—9.30am



Note: Try to buy your uniforms as early as possible. You can  
always exchange sizes.

Please Remember!!

Be Patient!!!

## WANTED—TABLE TENNIS TABLES

Any families that may have an unwanted table tennis table at home, QHHS would gladly take them off your hands. We are looking for the ones with metal fold out legs that are easy to store (see picture below). If you have one and it could be delivered to the school, we would be very appreciative.

David Blench, HT PDHPE



H-100



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## Farnham Road Newsagency and Gift shop

1 / 216 Farnham Road, Quakers Hill, NSW 2763

Since August 2012, we have re-opened the Farnham Road Newsagency and are trying our best to provide excellent services to the local community.

### Opening hours:

Mon to Fri	:	7:00am to 6:00pm
Sat	:	7:30am to 2:00pm
Sun & Public Holiday	:	7:30am to 1:00pm

### Major Products & Services provided

- Lotteries
- Newspapers and magazines
- Greeting Cards
- Stationery
- Giftware
- Photocopying, Fax & Laminating Services



## Special Offer

Every \$10 stationery purchase, You can get a “2013 Student Diary” for **FREE!**

(special offer until stock lasts)