

CONTACT



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NSW Department of Education & Training

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

STUDENTS CONTACTING HOME DURING SCHOOL HOURS

Just recently there has been an increase in the numbers of students calling or texting home to ask parents to come and collect them from school because they are not feeling well. Parents are reminded that students' use of mobile phones is for outside school hours and if their child is feeling unwell they should come down to the front office and the office ladies will call home. Thus we can ensure that appropriate medical attention is provided if necessary and we are prepared for the parent to arrive and collect their child. This will happen seamlessly of course if the school is kept up to date with any changes to personal or home phone numbers.

MATHEMATICS CURRICULUM REVIEW

I recently interviewed over 45 students from a range of different classes and years as part of the Mathematics Curriculum Review. Last week I presented my findings to the Maths faculty and overall the response was very positive. Many of the students articulated the importance of the subject and recognised it was very challenging but acknowledged how important it was for them to do well in Maths. They believed their teachers worked them hard in Maths and many of them had a clear indication of how they were progressing and that their teachers encouraged them to do well.

Some of the challenges the Maths faculty now has is to try and make things like Pythagoras' Theorem and algebra relevant to the world of our adolescents. The students fully understand the value of learning about fractions and percentages and things around money management skills but still see little relevance in some of the more difficult concepts the subject covers.

STAFFING UPDATE

Next term we will have a new member of staff Ms Lauren Paa who will be filling the role of Student Support Officer. She will be part of Mr Barry's team who support students who are struggling and disengaged from school. Ms Paa will be working closely with Mr Hutton providing work experience options for a number of our Stage 5 students.

Upcoming Events

28 June
NAIDOC Day
Year 7 AFL
Reports/Contact issued

29 June
Accelerated Class workshop
Last day Term 2

3-6 July
Holiday Musical rehs 10-3

16 July
All students return Term 3
P&C Meeting 7pm

20 July
CHS Cross Country

23 July
Staff Development Day

24 July
Year 10 Taster Day @
Wyndham

25 July
OC Placement Test

26 & 27 July
SW Athletics
Contact Issued

Next term Mr Bredin will be returning to school. He took some leave at the end of this term and Mr Head has been relieving Deputy Principal and Miss Mutch has been taking care of the Social Science Faculty. I wanted to thank them both for their professionalism and leadership in filling in for these roles.

BE FIRE SAFE THIS WINTER

Winter's chill has arrived and with it our scramble for heaters, electric blankets and open fires. Entertaining is now year round thanks to portable outdoor gas heaters. But with all these conveniences come fire dangers. Statistics reveal that almost half of all home fires are started in the kitchen and 43 per cent of all fire fatalities occur in winter. NSW Fire and Rescue reminds us to do a fire safety audit of our homes this winter, check smoke detectors are working and ensure appliances such as clothes dryers and dishwashers are running efficiently and safely. For more household fact sheets and useful videos on how to protect your home and family from fire go to www.fire.nsw.gov.au/

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS SORTED

The school holidays are fast approaching. For great activities to keep the kids gainfully occupied check out the informative Go Play website which is full of ideas for kids aged up to 18 years. You can search by age, activity, region, date, time and by government organisation. Go to: www.goplay.nsw.gov.au.

Can I take this opportunity to wish you an enjoyable and relaxing holiday break and make sure you keep warm. Remember school resumes for our students on **Monday 16th July** with the Staff Development Day being held the following Monday 23rd July, so students will not attend school on 23/7/12.

Lauretta Claus, Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

END OF SEMESTER 1

As we approach the end of Term 2, we see the closing of a very busy and productive term. During this term there were numerous events including Athletics and Cross Country carnivals, State Knock Out matches, Sydney West Dance Festival, Nirimba Collegiate Cup, Premier's Debating Competition, SRC Camp, UWS Fast forward Program, rehearsals and preparation for the school musical '*It Began With Eve*' and numerous excursions conducted by various faculties. These events serve to enrich the educational experiences of our students and provide them with learning opportunities outside the traditional curriculum delivered in the classroom. Many thanks to staff, students and members of the school community who have supported these extra-curricular programs. Both staff and students are looking forward to a well-earned break in preparation for the opportunities and challenges presented in Term 3.

COMMEDED STUDENT PERFORMANCE YEARS 7 - 10

During Week 9 Mr Head (Relieving Deputy Principal) and I have identified students who have been recognised by their class teachers as working with consistent application and achieving excellent results in three or more subjects. It is very pleasing to see at least 50 students from each year group who have achieved this standard of performance with a total of 238 students in all being recognised. These students will each be presented with an executive award from their Deputy Principal and a letter of commendation from the school. Congratulations to all recipients.


RELIEVING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL – MR HEAD

On behalf of QHHS, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Head for relieving as Deputy Principal in Mr Bredin's absence. Mr Head has done an excellent job in this leadership role whilst still organising the whole school timetable in preparation for Semester 2. Many thanks Mr Head.


Therese Hourigan, Deputy Principal (Years 7 & 9)

 70 Lalor Road, QUAKERS HILL NSW 2763
Principal

Lauretta Claus

 (02) 9837 1533
Deputy Principals

Robert Bredin

 (02) 9837 1747

Therese Hourigan

 quakershil-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
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.

Evening Numeracy Classes

Evening courses are being offered to members of the community in Numeracy strategies to assist your child. The sessions will be interactive and hands on, as well as being informative.

Where: Quakers Hill High School, Common Room

When	Strand to be covered
Wednesday 22 August	Number and Algebra
Wednesday 29 August	Measurement and Geometry
Wednesday 5 September	Data and Probability

Time: 7:00pm to 8:30pm

Cost: Free

You may attend as many sessions as you wish.

A light supper will be provided

Enquires or to register to attend please contact
Kuldip Khehra, Head Teacher Mathematics
(02)9837 1533

kuldip.dhesi@det.nsw.edu.au





PISA is coming to our school!

*Our school has been chosen to represent Australia for the OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) which is taking place between **30th July and 7th September 2012**. A random sample of 15-year-old students will be part of a once in a lifetime opportunity to represent Australia in education!*

PISA is an international assessment, occurring every three years, which measures skills in mathematics, science, reading, problem solving and financial literacy at a point when students have almost finished their compulsory schooling. PISA helps to inform policy makers involved with education on how well schools are succeeding in helping students to acquire the skills and knowledge they will need to meet challenges beyond school.

Since the first PISA assessment in 2000, the survey has continued to raise interest amongst educators and policy-makers world-wide. In 2012, Australia will be one of almost 70 countries participating in PISA. More than 800 schools and over 15 000 students will represent our country in this important project.

PISA is part of the National Assessment Program in Australia. Participation in these sample assessments is an obligation for government schools under the National Education Agreement between the Commonwealth and the States and Territories, and an obligation for non-government schools under Commonwealth schools funding legislation and funding agreements for 2009-2012.

What will PISA mean for our school?

Twenty-five students who are randomly selected from our school will be sampled to complete a two-hour paper-based assessment consisting of mathematics, science, financial literacy and reading questions. These students will also be asked to complete a questionnaire.

After the paper-based assessment and questionnaire, a sub-sample of 20 students who participated in the paper-based assessment will also participate in a computer-based assessment of problem solving, mathematical literacy and reading literacy.

Date of Assessment: 30.7.2012

PISA School Coordinator: Karen Critchley H.T Teaching and Learning/History

PISA IT Coordinator: Michael Brooks H.T Teaching and Learning/ICT

ACER- PISA Project Information Line: 1800 280 625

Every participating school and student has an important role in showing the rest of the world what Australia can do.

ACER will provide your school and participating students with a certificate, recognising their contribution, and students will receive results from PISA. Each student will also receive a small gift in appreciation of their participation.

SPORTS REPORT

SYDNEY WEST CROSS COUNTRY

Penrith Regatta Centre turned on perfect weather for the Sydney West X-Country competition. QHHS' performance on the day was outstanding with many of the students getting out there and giving it their best.

Waheed Shinwari was the stand out of the day finishing 6th in his age group and progressing to the NSW championship. In each race there were about 60 students who were ready to prove they were game enough to progress to the next level. We had most of our students finish in the top half of the group which is a great achievement when you take into consideration the level of athletes present on the day.

Every single runner who was there not only representing QHHS but the entire Blacktown Zone can be proud of their efforts. Well done to each of you and congratulations for your effort on making QHHS proud.

Alana Duncan (29 th)
Chelsea Dixon (DNF)
Chloe Silva (21 st)
Chloe Wilson (41 st)
Clayton Faulao (18 th)
Courtney Browne (33 rd)
Callum Powdrill (32 nd)
Daniel Byrne (31 st)
Hayden Moran (30 th)
Holly Leikvold (43 rd)
Jarroed Rixon (52 nd)
Julliette Harrington (16 th)
Kate Duncan (50 th)
Maddison Smith (38 th)
Nikolas Savage (23 rd)
Sarah Blazevec (40 th)
Aryton Taylor (48 th)
Thomas Dunn (24 th)
Veronica Mullane (35 th)
Vittorio Fabiano (35 th)
Waheed Shinwari (6 th)



PREMIER'S DEBATING COMPETITION

The Year 9/10 team has won Round 1 & 2 against Glenwood High School. The arguments on the Education and Media topics were fierce and well substantiated. Kylie Scott, Rhyannah Torrance, Kirsten Webster, Sally Bowers and India Escott were formidable as they engaged in all the reasons why their definitions on both topics were the best.

The Year 7 team won Round 1 on the Education Debate against Shalvey High. The team argued on the importance of examinations over assessments. These students have represented QHHS with such pride and fervour at each of the competitions. They need to be congratulated and wished every success in Round 3 of the tournament next term.

Ms Nitha Sewlall

SPORTS REPORT

GIRLS RUGBY LEAGUE

On Wednesday 20th of June, Quakers Hill High School had its first venture into Girls Rugby League. After selecting a Year 9 and 10 combined team to represent the school, the girls showed good skills throughout training with many new skills of the game to grasp such as tackling, beating defenders and offloading the ball.

Competition day was held as a part of the Women in League round of the NRL, recognising the efforts of females in Rugby League across many facets of the game. Ex-NRL stars Trent Barrett, Mark Riddell and Mario Fenech as well as the NSW women's State of Origin team were present on the day. They all spoke of the importance of teamwork, dedication and goal setting as well as discussing the many roles females play in Rugby League.

Despite an inexperienced and lightweight squad the girls can be extremely proud of their effort, courage in defence, camaraderie and teamwork shown on the day. We drew our match against St Clair High School and lost 3 tries to 1 against an experienced Chifley College side meaning we did not progress past the pools stage of the tournament. Standout performances on the day were from Ariana Skinner, Kirsten Webster, Karli Feneva, Alyce Adair and Raquel Gerial who received our side's Women in League player of the day award.

Congratulations to all the girls on the great attitude they displayed and in the way they represented our school. Well done!

Mr B. Longstaff (PDHPE)

The full team on the day was:

Chelsea Lala
Rubina Chand
Sophie Simaika
Karli Feneva
Ariana Skinner
Mirna Moucharrafi
Mikaela O'Keefe
Alyce Adair
Kirsten Webster
Vanessa Steadman
Raquel Gerial



NAIDOC WEEK

If you are looking for free things to do in the holidays, NAIDOC week is on from 1—8 July. There are things going on everywhere so check the internet and the local papers.

Blacktown Council is having NAIDOC at Nurragingy on 7 July at 10am at the Casuarina picnic area.

Parramatta Council has events all week at the library and an all day festival at Prince Alfred Park on 8 July from 10—3.30pm. It will include animal displays from Taronga Zoo, performers and much more.

The Holy Family Church on Luxford Road, Emerton is having their event on 2 July.

There will also be events at Riverstone, Mt Druitt and of course much more going on across Sydney.

All are welcome to these alcohol and drug free events.

HAMBLEDON PRIMARY SCHOOL P&C

Trivia Night

When: Saturday, 21st July 2012

Time: 7pm

Where: Hambledon Primary School Hall

Theme: Olympics

Cost: \$10 per person (tables up to 10 people)

Please join us for the P&C Trivia Night. Send your money to the office for your whole table in a clearly marked envelope as soon as possible to guarantee your table. (On the front of the envelope give us a name to use for table allocation and the number of people at your table). Prizes for the best decorated table, as well as raffles and games throughout the night.



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www.helenogradys.com.au

* Primary Classes also available.



You Can is a youth cancer organisation that wants your old mobile phones to recycle to help raise money to build specialised youth cancer centres. Next term we will have a collection box for you to come and donate your old phones for a good cause. If you raise enough money You Can...Win a Sony Music Superstar performance at your school assembly such as Jessica Mauboy, Stan Walker, Justice Crew, Reece Mastin or Johnny Ruffo. From the website:



**SCHOOLS
PROGRAM**

You Can...Help Australian teenagers survive cancer (without donating a single dollar)

You Can...Contribute to a greener planet

You Can...Win a Sony Music Superstar performance at your school assembly

You Can...Score a host of free Sony products including laptops, cameras and televisions for your school. Sounds easy and it is. 'You Can' is a charity initiative created by CanTeen and Sony Foundation to raise much-needed funds to help Australian teenagers survive cancer.

Young Australians with cancer are a 'forgotten generation' falling through the gaps of our medical system. 'You Can' aims to create specialised and age-appropriate cancer centres and services for 15 – 30 year olds, to help give this age-group the best possible chance of survival. Your school can help and all without donating a single dollar.

'You Can' is recycling old mobile phones to raise the necessary funds, find out how here. There are over 20 million unwanted phones lying in bottom drawers around Australia. By helping to collect these phones your school will be rewarded with free Sony products. Plus, you will have the chance to win a Sony Music Superstar performance at your school assembly.



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ACUPUNCTURE NOW AVAILABLE

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Acupuncture is a very safe complimentary therapy with a great success rate in the treatment and management of pain – including pain associated with arthritis, lower back pain, joint pain and tension headaches.

Dr. Nabeel Makmahi has long had an interest in complimentary medicine and is delighted to be able to offer acupuncture at KRMC. For more information and to make an appointment with Dr. Nabeel please call Reception on **8822 3000**. *Please note that private consultation charges will apply but a Medicare rebate is available.*

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