

CONTACT



VOLUME 21—ISSUE 15

18 OCTOBER 2013

NSW Department of Education & Training

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back to Term 4 - a term that promises to be a very busy one. What with exams, Swim School, Year 10 and 6 Orientation Days and of course the Year 10 Formal and Graduation Ceremony, along with Presentation Day and our Service to the School Assembly. Please make sure you access our school website and Facebook page, so that you can keep abreast of all the activities that are going on at the school this term.

WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

Internationally World Teachers' Day is celebrated on the first Friday in October. However, as this is usually during Australian school holidays, Australia celebrates the day on the last Friday in October of each year. This year the day is celebrated on 25th October.

World Teachers' Day was inaugurated on 5th October 1994 by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to commemorate the 1966 joint signing of the UNESCO/ILO (International Labour Organisation) Recommendation concerning the status of Teachers. I am always proud to tell someone that I am a teacher and I believe teachers are incredibly important in shaping the type of society we live in and the quality of the world we leave for future generations.

At the heart of the educational system, teachers hold the keys to a better future for all. They are a powerful force for peace. By transmitting universal values such as human rights, respect, justice and cultural diversity, they help transform younger generations into global citizens of the 21st century. Teachers are so important to our society because they deliver the human right to a quality education, the very foundation for lasting peace and sustainable development. Please take the time to celebrate World Teachers' Day and I would personally like to thank the wonderful teachers we have here at Quakers Hill High School.

PARENT TEACHER EVENING

Many thanks to Mr Paul Sultana for organizing our last Parent Teacher Evening and thankyou 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

Upcoming Events

18 October
Vaccinations
Contact issued

21 October —1 November
Exam weeks (Yrs 9&10)

22 October
Fast Forward Year 9 Skills
Day

23 & 30 October
Support Unit Swim School

28 October
Year 10 Collegiate Exams
English/Science

29 October
Year 10 Collegiate Exams-
Maths/HSIE

31 October
Year 9 History Incursion
Periods 1 & 2

1 November
Contact issued

to meet with either your child's classroom teacher or House Adviser.

STAFFING CHANGES

Welcome to Ms Roseeta Prasad from Blackwater College who joins our Science staff, this position was created due to our growth in student numbers. Mr Lloyd has commenced his role as HT Maths at Crestwood HS and Ms Sonia Concepsion is taking his classes, while staffing endeavours to fill this vacancy. While Ms Valatiadis is on LSL Mrs Josselyn is relieving HT CAPA and Mr Jason Kantek is taking care of Bathurst house. Ms Maria Romerosa is helping out at Riverstone HS leading their English and HSIE faculty and Ms Grace Del Pinto is relieving as the House Adviser for Yallah for the term. Ms Bree Mutch is the Perisher House Adviser for term 4 in Mr Lloyd's absence. Welcome back to Ms Linden Earl, she has been busy renovating her home while on LSL. Next year Mr Tim MacIntyre will be taking up a vacancy at Wyndham College teaching English and History with Ms Deborah Franco joining him, there teaching Drama and English. Mr Rob Andrews from RHS is transferring across to take Mr MacIntyre's position and Ms Franco's position needs to be filled by staffing later this term. I am sure there will be more staffing changes as the term progresses and I will keep you posted.

Have a good week

Lauretta Claus
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

All teachers, students and parents know that Term 4 is probably the busiest time of the year. What with the end of year examinations, swim school, formal, graduation and reports, orientation days and nights, there is a great deal going on. At the same time students are often inclined to start slowing down in their approach to their studies and they sometimes start thinking that the holidays have started early. With this in mind the DP report for this Contact is focussed on a few very important things that will help your child to have a safe and successful end to their school year.

EXAMS

All Year 9 and 10 students have received their examination schedules and they should be studying for those examinations. Encourage your child to make summaries and to read over their course notes. Student diaries have examination and study tips and students should be making full use of these as well as the Quakers Hill online study handbook which is a fabulous resource jam packed with study guides, suggestions and tips. This resource can be accessed by entering Study skills handbook in Google search engine. Hit login and enter quakershillhs for school and 45 success for the password.

EXAMINATION BEHAVIOUR

The QHHS community expects and accepts only the highest standards of behaviour in examinations. In accordance with this, each formal examination will begin with an examination script which is read out to the students to ensure they understand what is expected. This script is included for your information and I would like to highlight several key points. *"Students will be warned once if they are not following the exam rules. A teacher will write 'warned,' what they were warned for and the time they were warned on the front of their paper. **If the student acts inappropriately a second time, then they will be removed from the examination room and will receive a zero.**"* The examination script will be reproduced in full on the school website.

BUS SAFETY

At a recent P&C meeting concerns were raised regarding the behaviour of students who get off the bus outside Marayong Public. Students have been observed getting off the bus and running across Davis Road. Students have begun making a game of this and have endangered their own safety and the safety of motorists. Please join with us in always encouraging your child to behave safely on the

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Principal

Lauretta Claus

Deputy Principals

Rebecca Mahon (Yrs 7 & 9)

Beatrice Maricic (Yrs 8 & 10)

P&C President

Joanne Warner

School Captains

Megan Warner & Daniel Marsh

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roads and to always act with extreme caution in and around buses.

There have also been some concerns about bus drivers behaving badly. If your child tells you that the driver of their bus was driving erratically, speeding, using their mobile phone or behaving in any way that endangers the passengers or other motorists, please contact the bus company with the bus number and the approximate incident time.

NAPLAN

By the time you are reading this you should have received your child's NAPLAN assessment. The information that we receive via NAPLAN is very important to us and is used in a variety of ways. NAPLAN contains many teaching and learning strategies that we can use to improve student literacy and numeracy. It contains specific information that staff can use to target your child's learning needs and strengths. Students who have been identified as falling behind National Benchmarks will receive targeted assistance. If you are concerned or have any questions about your child's NAPLAN results, please contact the school.

N AWARD WARNINGS

Mrs Maricic and myself are currently working through a list of outstanding N Award Warnings that Year 9 and 10 students have accumulated. N Award letters are sent home to inform you that your child is not meeting course requirements in that specific subject either via failure to complete coursework or failure to submit assessment tasks. In order to successfully complete Stage 5, students must fulfil all course requirements. If your child receives an N Award Warning, you need to discuss the task with your child. See if there is any reason they did not do the task (lack of materials, understanding etc) and encourage them to complete the work by the revised due date. If there are difficulties in understanding the task, please encourage them to see their teacher. It is important to note that if your child is N Awarded in one or more courses that it can impact on whether they are able to proceed to Stage 6.

KIDS GETTING IT RIGHT

Over the last week or so Mrs Maricic and myself have been handing out merit awards to the long list of students who received no negative referrals throughout Semester 1. Over 420 students have consistently been following the SMART code by being Safe, Motivated, Academic, Respectful and Tolerant at all times and this is very pleasing. Keep up the good work!

THE BIG DAY OUT

The annual big day out is coming up and this year there is a twist – soon to be revealed. If you want your house to be the one chosen to enjoy a day of freedom and leisure in the company of your friends and teachers, you need to put in your house points. Don't miss out!

BULLYING

Term 4 is seeing a concerted effort by the whole school community to say No Way to Bullying. Staff have received training and students will also be receiving lessons on how they can help to stop bullying. Each week will have a focus with staff, students and the occasional special guest doing assembly presentations.

UNIFORM

Finally we come to uniform which can tend to slip as the year draws to a close. Please ensure that your child takes responsibility for their uniform and wears the appropriate clothing and footwear each day. If they cannot wear their uniform, they need to provide a note of explanation or they will receive a detention. Elsewhere in this *Contact* is a uniform page outlining what is and is not acceptable. Please consult this prior to purchasing footwear or clothing. Also note that any items worn under the white school shirt need to be white also.

PLEASE PAY PARTICULAR NOTICE TO:

Nail Polish—CLEAR ONLY

Make-up is NOT permitted—minimal foundation may be worn to hide skin blemishes.

Jewellery must be kept to a minimum.

Earrings are to be studs or sleepers **ONLY** (this is for safety reasons).

Wristbands—spiked are **NOT** to be worn.

Necklaces—spiked are **NOT** to be worn.

Additional Clothing (for warmth) - may **ONLY** be worn under items of uniform and must **NOT** be visible at any time. T-Shirts—White **ONLY** permitted under school shirts. (**NO** coloured or printed T-shirts are permitted).

Footwear—must be Black Leather Shoes which fully enclose the foot (Ballet/Slipper type shoes will not be permitted).

Rebecca Mahon, Deputy Principal (Years 7 & 9)

NEWS FROM THE SUPPORT UNIT

Welcome back to a busy Term 4 in the Support Unit! Year 8 students enjoyed their excursion to the Blacktown Cinema Complex during the last week of Term 3. We watched '**Percy Jackson & the Sea of Monsters**' in 3D as part of our exploration of ancient Greek mythology. 8W have also been learning to speak & write Modern Greek and exploring all things Greek, past and present. All SU students have been mastering new skills in their elective classes and enjoying the opportunity to make new friends. Chill Out Time in The Calm Room (D9) is operating before school & during the breaks each day with great friendships & interest groups developing. Congratulations to participating students! The SU has a very busy time ahead with swimming lessons, Gala Day & various exciting excursions planned. Watch this space!

Margie Beange (teacher 8W)

Student leaders: Quakers Hill High School | Blacktown Sun

Page

The school's motto is: Shaping a positive future

What is unique about your school?

Daniel Marsh: It is a place where people go to learn and love their sport. We have lots of different programs and clubs/groups that students can get involved in to make their lives better.

Megan Warner: Our school is unique as we have the freedom to choose from a wide range of electives and extra curricula activities.

What do you want to do when you leave school?

Daniel Marsh: I want to be a police officer. I have always wanted to be in the force but if that doesn't go well I have also thought about being a teacher or working for my dad's electrical company.

Megan Warner: When I leave school I am interested in a career in either medicine or policing.

Why do you think being a school leader is important?

Daniel Marsh: I believe it is important as it shows a sense of pride for your school and community. It also gives you the chance to make the school better.

Megan Warner: I think being a leader is important as you become a sort of role model and people start to look up to you and you must set an example.

If you were the principal what would you introduce?

Daniel Marsh: I would introduce different programs into the school to motivate all the students into doing their school work.

Megan Warner: As principal I would introduce less assignments and homework. It is far too hard to cope with so much stress!

ENGLISH FACULTY

Welcome back to Term 4! Students in all years are busily studying for exams and assessments in the coming weeks. Year 7 are presenting their persuasive speeches in class this week and are revising for their Reading and Writing exams next week. The English staff have been extremely impressed with the ideas and creative use of persuasive techniques in the speeches that we have heard so far. Keep up the excellent work Year 7!

Year 8 are concluding their topic on Websites and will be completing their Listening Test relating to this unit in the next week. In Week 4 they will also be sitting their Yearly Exam which will focus on a reading comprehension section and a persuasive writing task. Once exams are over, Year 8 will move on to the topic of Picture Books where students will learn about the importance of the visual aspect to stories, the connection these have with the text and how this shapes meaning.

Year 9 have been revising the themes, ideas and dramatic techniques of William Shakespeare's *'Romeo and Juliet'* for their upcoming Yearly Examination in Week 3. The exam will require students to read several texts and complete multiple choice and short answer questions. The final section of the exam involves students writing an essay about the key themes of the play. Following the exam period, students will begin an Area of Study on Conflict, which will allow them to delve further into how the idea of conflict is portrayed in a variety of texts.

Year 10 are in the midst of revising for their RoSA exams in Week 4 on the topic of Australian Identity. If students need further assistance in preparing for the exam, they are encouraged to check out the resources under the RoSA tab on the website: www.gray24.weebly.com and to consult their class teacher regularly for feedback on how they are going. Students are also encouraged to attend the extra workshops being held after school on Thursdays by Ms Gray – please see Ms Gray in the English staffroom for a permission note.

Good luck to all students in their exam preparation! All students are encouraged to speak with their class teacher if they require any extra assistance with exam or study techniques.

Spelling Bee App

The NSW Department of Education and Training has launched a new app that assists students to practise and improve their spelling. The app is designed for Android phones and tablets and features almost 3,000 words with helpful corresponding sentences from the Premier's Spelling Bee 2013. There are three levels of difficulty and a leader board to track progress and improvement. Students can create games with spelling words and multiple lists can be created so that more than one child can practise their spelling. This app is a companion to the free A to Z apps and website. For more information and to download this app, go to: www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/about/mobile-applications/school-a-to-z.





PROCEDURE FOR DEALING WITH A BULLYING INCIDENT



STUDENTS

Use strategies taught at school ie walk away, ignore, name the behaviour "You are bullying me."

Tell a teacher, SSO, Year Adviser, parent, Head Teacher, Deputy Principal or Principal.
TELL SOMEONE

ALL STAFF

Listen to the student. Support the student to fill out an anti-bullying report (target).

Investigate. Use the Anti-Bullying Contract/mediation sheet. Record the details on FCW. Consult HT/YA if unsure how to proceed

PARENTS / GUARDIANS

Encourage your child to report any incidents as soon as possible

Do not encourage your child to retaliate in any way in person or via social media

Encourage your child to follow the school's procedures.

If the incident cannot be resolved; if it is a repeat offence with no evidence of a change in behaviour; if it involves cyberbullying or physical violence, (ie it is ABOVE THE LINE) refer immediately to HT, Deputy Principal or Principal.

GRADUATING SYSTEM:

First Instance: Student is warned/counselled. Incident recorded FCW.

2nd Instance: After - School Detention (HT)

Third Instance: Parents contacted. Removed from playground for 3 days

Fourth Instance: Formal Caution. (DP)

Fifth Instance: Suspension

NOTE: above the line bullying may incur an immediate suspension

Contact the school to ensure that relevant staff are aware of what is happening.

If cyberbullying has taken place please copy and keep the posts as evidence.

Keep an open mind. Remember you are only hearing one side of the story

DO NOT approach the bully yourself or become involved via Facebook or social media.

At Quakers Hill High School the entire school community shares the responsibility for creating a SMART learning community where bullying is not tolerated. A school community where all students are encouraged to report all instances of bullying.

PENRITH PANTHERS 7'S TOURNAMENT NEWS

The Year 10 boys had their first win of the season when they defeated Chifley College Mt Druitt Campus 16-8 in the Panthers seven-a-side tournament in late September. The side were still searching for their first win of the season after having a depleted side for the District Knockout tournament in June. The team used the motivation of playing for the last time in a QHHS jersey as the majority of the team would be moving off to the senior campus at Wyndham next year.

The side also had a 16-all draw with Cambridge Park and with finals aspirations the side played St Clair, the winner going on to play in the final 8. With a four point lead at half time the boys were feeling confident but the pressure was too much; the team falling in the final minutes to lose by a converted try. The team finished in 10th place from the 20 schools - a notable performance.

Quakers Hill entered a second team in the tournament who had the difficult task of being placed in a seeded pool but surprised everyone averaging more tries than their more fancied school colleagues with 20 points per game and delivering the performance of the day with a 20-all draw with the eventual Grand finalists Dunheved College.

There were great performances by Michael Brinnand, Jayden Pisani and Andronicus Demetriou for the Quakers Hill White team and for Quakers Hill Blue, a fantastic ball playing performance from the Captain Kyle Marshall and T.J. Fuimaono. The Penrith officials commented that all students should be commended on their behaviour.

Tim Macintyre ,Coach

MUSIC NEWS

It has been a busy three terms up in the Music faculty at QHHS. Our students have been busy rehearsing hard, showcasing impressive performances for various functions in-school and for the wider community. The newly-formed QHHS choir gave their first public performance at Westpoint Shopping Centre Blacktown to celebrate Education Week. We also had a group of senior students perform an upbeat dance item which the audience got in to. The school marked its 20th anniversary this year, and this entailed a huge celebration over three nights. Various students took to the stage ranging from soloists to group items with a combination of first-time and experienced performers. They are to be commended on for their exceptional performances. Our school assemblies are a great opportunity to showcase the school's broad range of talent and many students have taken advantage of this and have given wonderful performances. We are reminding students to approach the Music staff if they are interested in showcasing an act for any upcoming assemblies. The Music staff are looking forward to a productive and creative Term 4 and cannot wait for more inspiring and show-stopping performances by our students at QHHS.

Mrs Nicholls and Mrs Tong

HEAD LICE ALERT

Please be aware that there has been an outbreak of head lice at the school.

Tips for tackling head lice:

- **Use hair conditioner and a fine head lice comb**
- **Apply conditioner to the hair and comb through with a wide-toothed comb to remove the tangles**
- **Then use a fine metal lice comb to remove the lice and pull the nits off the hair.**
- **The conditioner helps slow down the louse and makes it easier to comb out.**

For more information go to the "Nitbusters" website: www.health.nsw.gov.au/headlice

STOP

HELP

TELL

Bystanders

(People who witness bullying)

STOP reinforcing the person bullying – show your disapproval (e.g., walk away, shake your head in disapproval). Tell the person bullying to STOP only when it is safe to do so.

HELP the person being bullied by removing them from the situation

TELL someone you can trust (e.g., a friend, teacher, parent, counsellor, police) that can put a stop to the bullying

Targets

(People being bullied)

STOP reacting to the bully (e.g., avoid being in places where the bully is likely to be, ignore the bully, walk away from the bully).

Seek HELP from the people you trust (e.g., a friend to walk home with you)

TELL someone you can trust that you need help to put a stop to the bullying

Bullies

(People who bully)

STOP yourself from bullying others by controlling your own behaviour

Seek HELP to control your behaviour from people you trust (e.g., a friend that can help you control your temper)

TELL someone you can trust that you need help to stop bullying others

SCIENCE NEWS

YEAR 7 REPTILES INCURSION

A science incursion on reptiles was organised for Year 7 students in the School Hall on 18 September 2013. The students received interesting facts about the different habitats, life span and characteristics of several native reptiles. They also had hands-on experience in handling the reptiles and looking closely at the structural features. It was pleasing to note how curious the students were and the many interesting questions they asked the presenter. Here are some of the students' responses to this exciting experience:

"I found it interesting, especially when you could touch the animals" - *Sohnjah L*

"I enjoyed the incursion a lot. It was a great fun, learning awesome facts about reptiles and having a go at touching and looking at real reptiles" - *Vipneet K*

"It was very educational and I learnt a lot about reptiles. It was fun and I enjoyed this" – *Rebecca F*

"I thought that the Science incursion was really good for reptile lovers and even for people who do not like reptiles" - *Chantelle T*

"The incursion was really good because we got to see real snakes and I got a picture of my friend Kelly with a snake around her neck. We also got to learn about reptiles" - *Erin M*

FORTHCOMING EXAMS

The Year 9 and 10 Science classes will be sitting their exams for this Semester in the hall while Years 7 and 8 will have their tests during lesson time between weeks 4-5. It is suggested that students ensure that their note books are up to date. If there are any worksheets or notes missed due to absence, then students should speak to their class teachers to assist in this regard. All students are encouraged to use the in-class revision time to seek clarification and ask questions in those areas that not fully understood. Year 9 and 10 students can benefit from using their summary sheets developed for each topic.

Suggestions to help with your study-

- Consider using **Mind Maps** to help create links with main concepts in a topic. Using both words and drawings will allow you to see the topic as the whole. To find out more on how you can make your own maps, go to: <http://www.makeuseof.com/tag/build-mind-map-microsoft-word/>
- Test yourself by learning your work in smaller sections and then writing out what you studied onto paper
- Get someone to quiz you on terminology and definitions - this is a great way to study when travelling to school or to sporting activities.

Remember: Good things come to those who work for it!

Good luck with your exams!!!





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Our reference:
D2013/17522

Dear Principal

Delayed Release of NAPLAN 2013 Student Reports to Parents

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) has advised Test Administration Authorities that it has identified an error in the placement of the national average markers on Years 5 and 7 NAPLAN Student Reports in Language Conventions. ACARA is devising a strategy to address the issue quickly, however, distribution of Student Reports to schools will be delayed.

On advice from ACARA, it is anticipated that 2013 NAPLAN Student Reports will be delivered to schools across Australia from 8–11 October, with distribution of reports to parents to occur in the week Monday 14 to Friday 18 October. The release of the NAPLAN Summary Report and SMART are unaffected. They will be available to schools from Friday 13 September 2013.

Schools also have access to the Participation and Registration (PAR) website during the reporting period to enable a review of student test participation information. Access is read-only and no changes can be made to data.

The Board of Studies NSW, as the Test Administration Authority, will continue to work with ACARA and other national bodies to ensure coordinated distribution of 2013 NAPLAN Student Reports.

2013 NAPLAN SMART data can be accessed through the NSW Department of Education and Communities (DEC) portal from Friday 13 September. Any issues with SMART data should be referred to the DEC at smarttrain@det.nsw.edu.au.

Principals communicating with parents on this issue may wish to use the attached text provided by ACARA. For further details, please contact ACARA on 1300 895 563 or 02 8098 3100.

I will advise schools of any further details regarding the reporting timeline as they come to hand.

Yours sincerely

Carol Taylor
Chief Executive
11 / 9 / 2013

HISTORY FACULTY NEWS

Exams are in the next few weeks and this is a chance to impress your teachers with all you have learnt. For Year 10 we will be running study sessions before and after school so stay tuned for events. In Week 9 we had our first History debating team compete at Blacktown Boys High. We won our first debate and we were fabulous but were out debated in our second and third rounds. The team was rewarded with a visit to get lunch at McDonalds. Congratulations to Matthew Fleming, Kate Poole, Steven Woodward, Aarya Raghubanshi, Justin Acuesta, and Jordan Heintz.

Assessment run down.

- Year 7 Exam and Egypt research task.
- Year 8 Exam
- Year 9 Exam and completion essay on war.
- Year 10 Exam and revision.
- Year 9 Accelerated Exam and Site study
- Year 10 – Are starting Year 12. It is anticipated that they will complete their assessment in Week 8 in line with other Ancient History classes at Wyndham.

Stay tuned Year 7 and 8 as we are looking at taking all Year 7 and 8 to see the Viking exhibition at the Maritime museum where you will be able to board a replica Viking boat. Note will come out soon.

Mrs Critchley, H.T Teaching and Learning

A MESSAGE FROM THE MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

As you are probably aware, exam season is almost here. Most Yearly Mathematics exams will take place during Weeks 3 and 4. Year 10 will take their ROSA examination on Tuesday 29 October. These exam results will form a large part of the semester grade. In order to maximize marks and achieve their full potential, students are encouraged to do some **REVISION**. This means look back over your notes and make sure you understand what you have written. If you do not understand, ask your teacher for help. In Mathematics we hold exam preparation classes, often at lunch time. An excellent resource to aid understanding and hopefully help with exam preparation is a website called www.khanacademy.org. Mr Khan is a very talented American educator. The free site consists of video clips ranging from Mathematics to History and almost everything else in between! You do not see Mr Khan, you just watch his fluorescent pens at work and hear his quirky, fun personality explaining concepts in a simplistic and step by step format. This website is worth a look and it might even turn that "B" into an "A" !!

TEXTILES NEWS

Last term, just before the holidays, the Textiles Technology fashion class went to visit the TAFE at Ultimo to see a fashion design student fashion parade. This is an annual event for this course. It shows students a range of career options and skill levels for further study after HSC level. Students see a combination of theatre, costuming for dance and fashion items. It's a great day out. We see static displays of student planning and previous years' products. Students are encouraged to view works from various times in history, as well as for specific dance styles. The group very much enjoyed the performances and were able to see the items set to music. The excursion always motivates students to see relevance of the practical skills that they learn in class. This term we have now finished making fashion skirt items and are creating pyjamas. Students complete design work to go with this and research designers such as Peter Alexander. Focus on lightweight woven fabrics will make these clothing items practical and useful for their wearers. I look forward to seeing them finished.

Tracey Drake

LITERACY NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Literacy National Partnership happily welcomes Amy Nicholls to the Team this term in place of Maria Romerosa, who is relieving Head Teacher English at Riverstone High School until the end of the year. Amy teaches in the CAPA faculty and has a wealth of experience in student literacy, particularly related to the needs of ESL students. We look forward to Amy adding value to our wonderful team, and continuing the amazing work started by Maria Romerosa.

This term our literacy focus for the school shifts from the accurate use of punctuation to the correct use of grammar. All teaching staff will continue to be vigilant in checking students' written work, ensuring that the conventions of writing are being observed consistently and appropriately. This term we will be focussing on common grammatical errors in both written and spoken English to ensure that our students are able to communicate effectively.

Our Year 8 Literacy class teachers continue to teach the revised Year 8 Literacy units – with feedback from students encompassing comments such as “It makes sense!”, “It’s fun!” and “I can actually do it!”. Teachers have also provided positive feedback, finding the content of the units engaging and relevant to students' everyday lives and experiences. Topics encountered in the units undertaken to date have included the earthquakes in New Zealand, motor vehicle safety, credit and debit cards, and newspaper and internet advertising. Despite the Literacy National Partnerships focus being Year 8, revised Year 7 Literacy units are currently “under construction” and will be taught from the start of 2014.

Having finished working with teachers from the Geography, History, PDHPE and Science faculties towards the end of Term 3, the Literacy National Partnerships Team has started working with teachers of Year 8 students from the Maths, TAS and CAPA faculties. We will also be working with teachers in the Support Unit to continue building capacity with all teachers in our “whole school approach” to the embedding of literacy into everyday teaching practice.

If you would like further information at any time regarding our Quakers Hill High School Literacy National Partnerships initiatives, or ideas regarding how you can help at home, please don't hesitate to contact any of the team – we are more than happy to assist.

Gail Attwood

(on behalf of the Literacy National Partnerships Team : Gail Attwood , Emily Gray, Amy Nicholls, Ben Dezman)

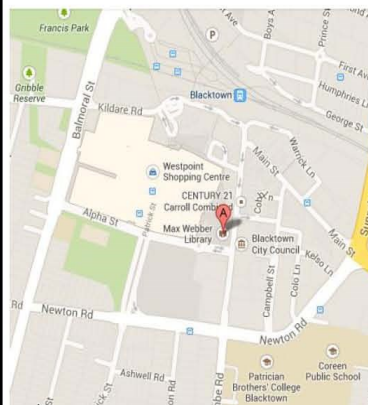
SOCIAL SCIENCE

Welcome back to all students and I hope you are well rested and ready to be SMART throughout Term 4. Term 4 is a busy and important time of your year with Weeks 3 & 4 being the examination period. Years 7 and 8 Geography, Work Education and Commerce will be completing their assessment program in timetabled classes while Years 9 & 10 Geography will be sitting for their course examinations in the hall. The Year 9 Geography examination will be held during Periods 3 & 4 on Thursday 24 October while Year 10 Geography will sit for their examination on Tuesday 29 October. All students should be spending time at home revising Geographical Skills as well as topics that have been outlined by their classroom teacher. I encourage all students to seek the advice of their classroom teachers to assist them in preparing for their examinations. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher or myself, if you have any questions about this important period.

Anthony Head, Head Teacher Social Science



Apprenticeship Information Night

<p>Date: Tuesday 29th October, 2013</p>	<p>Time: 6:00pm to 8:00pm</p>	<p>Location: Max Webber Library Flushcombe Road, Blacktown</p>
<p>What</p> <p><i>Free</i> apprenticeship and trainee information session</p> <p>Brought to you by Group Training Association of NSW & ACT</p> <p>Supported by NSW State Training Services and local Partnership Brokers</p>	<p>Who</p> <p>Parents, carers and grandparents School leavers and job seekers Schools Careers Advisers</p> <p>Why</p> <p>To know how to prepare for Apprenticeships and Traineeships</p> <p>Speak with experts who represent a range of industries</p> <p>Learn about the benefits of pre-apprenticeship courses</p>	 <p>Automotive Construction Commercial Cookery Engineering Carpentry Electrical</p> <p>And other industries...</p>

Register at: <http://www.gtana.com.au/events/event/blacktown> | Enquiries: 02 9746 9333 / info@gtana.com.au

Supported By:

Ms Emily Gray, English teacher & Year 7 Adviser, entered poems from several students in the Dorotea Mackellar competition. The poem featured below 'Untitled' written by Nicole Yallop in Year 10 has been commended by the judges of the competition and will feature in the annual anthology of poems the competition puts together.

Nicole YALLOP, 16

*Quakers Hill High School
QUAKERS HILL NSW*

Untitled

He burnt bright with passion,
lighting up the darkness of her life,
but he never knew that,
as they only crossed paths five times a year.

And she craved him,
like he did her.
Even though they had their highs and lows
they were together all the time.

And that evening,
the sun missed the moon,
whilst the waves kissed the shore.

Judge's Comment

A delightful little poem which initially seems to be a love story. Readers will love the surprise.



**SCHOOLS
PROGRAM**

GOT AN OLD PHONE YOU CAN'T USE ANYMORE??? IF YOU DONATE IT YOU CAN HELP QHHS WIN A SONY SUPERSTAR PERFORMANCE

We have a collection box in the front office where you can leave your **unwanted** phones. If we collect enough phones our school will win a Sony Music Superstar performance. Performers include Jessica Mauboy, Stan Walker, Justice Crew, Reece Mastin, The Collective, Samantha Jade or Johnny Ruffo.

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

You Can... Contribute to a greener planet

You Can... Score a host of free Sony products including laptops, cameras and televisions for your school, or Xperia Smartphone which is WATERPROOF

Competition runs until November 29 2013

<http://youcanschools.org.au/highschool/prizes/>

SWIM SCHOOL 2013

Swim School is on in 2013 for both Year 7 and Year 8. During this time staff and students travel to Black-town Pool and participate in a swim and survive program that lasts for 1 week for each year group.

Year 7 is on during week 7 of Term 4 (Monday 18th – Friday 22nd November)

Year 8 is on during week 8 of Term 4 (Monday 25th - Friday 29th November)

The program caters for all levels from non-swimmers to competent swimmers. Students are asked to indicate their swimming ability on the permission note which has been handed out before it is returned to the front office. **Aquatics is a compulsory component of the Year 7 PDHPE program and all students are expected to attend. There will be NO formal lessons at school for Year 7 or 8 during the week their year group is at swim school.** The emphasis of the program is on personal survival and rescue techniques. In a country where there are so many drownings at the beach and in backyard pools it is of great importance that our students are confident in and around water.

Some students say that they can swim so they don't need to attend. This is not the case, as by attending each student will achieve a Certificate of Achievement indicating the level of their competency from RSLSA as well as learning survival and resuscitation techniques. This is extremely important as quite often you may need to save the life of someone else. This could be someone in your family or a complete stranger. **A couple of years ago a former student from QHHS was walking down to Stanhope Shops when he saw a mother and father who had a young child with them who had stopped breathing. They were in a panic, however the ex-student calmly took control of the situation, used CPR training that he had just learnt from the swim school program and saved the life of the young child. The ex-student received a large write up in two local newspapers and he also received an award for bravery.**

Times: Roll call as normal. Students will then be transported to the pool by bus. Students will return to school by 3:00pm.

Cost: \$65 – Swim & Survive Award \$70 – Bronze Star & \$75 for Bronze Medallion (Yr8) (approval required for both of these-see Mr Barry)

Cost includes pool entry, bus fare and awards from the Royal Lifesaving Australia.

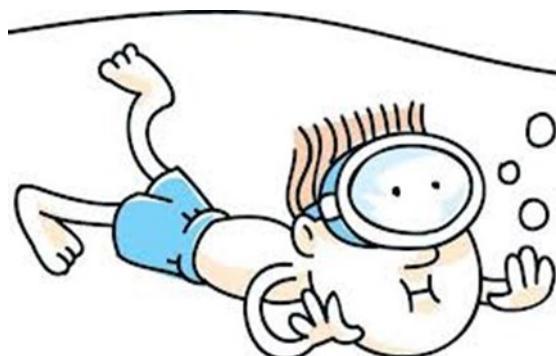
Requirements:

- School uniform is not required but students are expected to be appropriately dressed e.g. T-shirt, shorts and footwear.
- Towel, swimmers and warm clothes (tracksuit)
- 30+ sunscreen, hat, additional t-shirt to wear in the pool.
- Some students will be required to bring and wear additional clothing into the water as part of their award, however, their instructor will inform them accordingly.

Other:

- Students will be supervised at all times by staff however staff will not be responsible for large sums of money or valuables.
- Canteen facilities will be available during recess and lunch times.
- All students are required to follow the **SMART** expectations of QHHS for the duration of the Swim and Survive program. Failure to comply may result in exclusion from the program without refund.

Mr Blench- HT PDHPE



EDUCATION BY THE NUMBERS

1.23 billion students
in pre-k to high school

170 million students
in higher education

There are **1.4 BILLION** students on Earth

65.2 MILLION educators globally

UNESCO

9.2 million faculty in higher ed.

56 million teachers in pre-k to high school

Microsoft Global Programs

Partners in Learning: Learn more about Microsoft's global education program that has reached more than 292 million students, educators and schools to enhance the role of technology in learning.

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35 million
Pre-kindergarten
through grade 8

18.5 million
College &
University

5.8 million
Private school

14.8 million
Grade 9-12

3.7 million full-time elementary and
secondary school teachers in the US

NCTE

74.1 MILLION
students in
the US

NCTE

3.2 MILLION
public school teachers

.5 MILLION
private school
teachers

% of jobs requiring
some technology skills

50% Today 77% Next Decade

IDC

How many college
undergraduates are
currently pursuing degrees in
science or engineering?

<15% of US
College Undergraduates

25% of high school students
in the US fail to graduate on time.

US Department of Education

\$329 BILLION

The amount high school dropouts, from
the Class of 2006-2007, cost in lost wages,
taxes, and productivity over their lifetimes.

Alliance for Excellent Education

That's enough money to buy

**13 Windows 7
Netbook PCs**

for every student in
the United States.



13,900 public school districts in the US
containing about **99,000** public schools

NCTE

More Women than Men
in US Colleges

10.5 million 7.9 million

18% 82%

In 2008 women earned only 18%
of all Computer Science degrees

18% 82%

This is a 51% decrease since 1985.

Less than
10%
of American
engineers
are women.

National Engineers' Work Foundation

Microsoft Digitize

During these one-day events,
high school girls interact with
Microsoft employees to learn
about technology careers
and businesses.

More than 96% of the 2008
Digitize participants indicated
they would recommend the
program to their friends.

TECH PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS

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that have provided training to more than
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Imagine Cup: Gain experience in the world's
premier student technology competition to
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environmental sustainability.

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entry-level and internship positions with
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Natural Resources Defense Council

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- Dermal fillers again give the appearance of a younger look and can be used on creases found around the forehead, nose, mouth and eyes

The Cosmetic Clinic operates on a private basis but the consultation fee is deducted from the cost of any treatment received.

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Venue: Tradewynds Cafe Function Room
Nirimba Educational Precinct
(grounds of Wyndham College)
Eastern Rd, Quakers Hill (parking available in
Cafe Car Park)

Date: Thursday 24 October

Time: 10am-12pm OR 1pm-3pm (2 sessions available)

Cost: \$7.50 per person

RSVP: By Friday 18 October

**** BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL ****

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Delicious morning/afternoon tea will be served

Child minding available by appointment



Teen takes fast track to fame

By **Kylie Stevens**

REMEMBER the name Brodie Bevan.

The Quakers Hill High School student's rapid ride to stardom will see him in the recording studio just seven months after he first started singing lessons.

Brodie 14, will spend four hours in Oxygen Music's recording studios this month, which he won as a lucky door prize.

He will record his first song, which he co-wrote with signing teacher Gemma Luxton from Minchinbury-based Gemstar Academy of Voice and Music.

"It's a fast love song," Brodie said.

"Singing makes me feel happy and relaxed."

It will be good preparation for his Yamaha Music Fast Track singing competition heat on October 26.

Brodie has always enjoyed singing, according to mum Melissa Arrow.

"When he was four, he would sing Christmas carols all year long," she said.

"No one else in the family sings so I don't know where he gets it from. Music is a saviour and gives him an outlet from any problems he has.

"Without the support from his school and family that would never miss an event Brodie is involved in, I doubt he would be the fun-loving, adorable, happy-natured, amazing, kind teen that he is."

His popularity is rising with more 1000 views to his YouTube clips and more 180 likes to his Facebook page in a matter of weeks.

Ms Arrow has seen Brodie's confidence grow with the increasing opportunities coming to him.

"It's giving him more performance practice, which he's taking seriously," she said.

Facing the music:
Brodie Bevan hopes to pursue a career in the music industry.

Picture: Gene Ramirez



Brodie will compete in the Fast Track singing competition on October 26.

"I come home from work and he's on the laptop, teaching himself how to play guitar. He only needs to listen to a song once before he has it down pat."

"I'm so proud of him, watching the amount of effort he puts into every song."



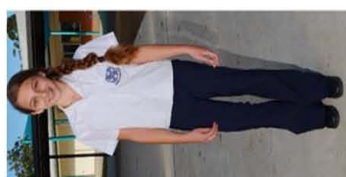
Boy's School Uniform



Quakers Hill High School
Correct Uniform



Girl's School Uniform



Sports Uniform





Quakers Hill High School
Incorrect Uniform



CHANGE OF PERSONAL DETAILS FOR STUDENTS

(PLEASE PRINT)

Please tear off and return to the front office if there are any changes

NAME OF STUDENT: _____

YEAR: _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____

WORK PHONE: _____

MOBILE NO: _____

CARER 1 NAME: _____

PHONE/MOBILE: _____

CARER 2 NAME: _____

PHONE/MOBILE: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACTS: _____

MEDICAL PROBLEMS (IF ANY) _____