

# CONTACT



VOLUME 21—ISSUE 7

24 MAY 2013

NSW Department of Education & Training

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### FAREWELL TO MR BREDIN

Mr Bredin has made the decision to take up the vacant Deputy Principal position at Wyndham College, created by the retirement of Mr Stan Planko. Mr Bredin will commence duties at Wyndham College next term. Mr Bredin's last day at Quakers Hill High School will be Friday 14 June 2013 as he will be taking Long Service Leave at the end of this term. Mr Bredin has been a long serving member of the school and he will be sorely missed. Many of our students who find school a real challenge have always found Mr Bredin as a support and his office a place where they could receive consolation and understanding. During his time as Deputy Principal Mr Bredin has been responsible for the organisation of the Year 7 & 9 Camps, the annual Fundday activities, the P&C funded student diaries, Year 5/6 Information Evenings and extra curricular activities such as Scripture.

At least Mr Bredin will still be close by and we wish him all the very best in his new position.

### 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

The school has been busy planning celebrations for our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. These celebrations will occur in Term 3 starting with a Fundday activity for all students on Wednesday 18 September. The SRC have been preparing an agenda for the day which includes staff versus student matches, a photo booth, hair colouring, face painting and a BBQ. The week will also see wonderful dramatic performances as well as our acclaimed CAPA showcase and a Trivia Night.

Any parent able to assist with the organisation of our Trivia Night is asked to contact the school and leave their name with Erika Cooper. The P&C are presently sending out letters to local businesses asking them to support our Trivia Evening with prizes and gifts.

### PARENT TEACHER EVENING

Last week parents of Year 8, 9 and 10 students took the opportunity to come to the school and discuss with their child's teachers, their academic progress. Many thanks to Mr Paul Sultana and Ms

## Upcoming Events

**23-24 May**

SRC Camp

**29 May**

Year 10 Taster Day @  
Wyndham

**3 June**

Sydney West Dance Festival  
3.30 & 6.30

**5 June**

Science Competition  
Sydney West Dance Festival

**6 June**

Zone Athletics Carnival  
Wyndham Subject Selection  
Evening

**7 June**

Zone Athletics Carnival  
Contact issued

**10 June**

Queen's Birthday holiday

**13 June**

Sydney West Cross Country

**17 June**

Science incursion  
Writing Competition Yr9  
AIME

Mel Lachevre for their coordination and organisation of the evening. Parents who were unable to attend are reminded that Semester 1 reports will be issued at the end of this term and upon reading these reports parents are encouraged to contact the school if they have any questions or concerns.

## **NAPLAN TESTING**

A big thankyou to Mrs Critchley, for her coordination and organisation of last week's NAPLAN testing. These tests are very important but are a logistical nightmare because of the sheer size of our Year 7 and Year 9 cohorts. The tests went extremely well largely due to the excellent behaviour of our students so well done Year 7 and 9.

## **WEEKLY SCHEDULING**

Learning how to make time for homework, study, chores, part-time jobs and so on is a vital skill for all kids, but it's one that we need to teach them by example. It's just a Word document, but you can now create your own weekly schedules to whip your family into shape. Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/weekly-schedule-template>

## **EXCEPTIONAL KIDS**

Would you rather your child have a high I.Q or a never-give-up attitude? Michael Grose looks at the research. Find out more: <http://parentingideas.com.au/Blog/April-2013-%281%29/Intelligence-or-persistence--which-would-you-choos>

## **BOUNCING BACK**

Does your child bounce back from disappointment, or do they need to learn to be more resilient - and how do you teach them, so they can deal with life's challenges? Watch the video. Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/developing-resilience-in-your-child>

Have a great week

Lauretta Claus  
*Principal*

## **DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

It is an incredibly strange feeling to be sitting at my computer typing out my final report as Deputy Principal of Quakers Hill High School. After squeezing in some long service leave on either side of the upcoming holidays, I will be commencing duties as Deputy Principal of Wyndham College next term.

After just over 18 years at this school, the staff, students and ex-students have become a HUGE part of my life. For those who haven't noticed, I LOVE my job. I am still not used to the sheer exhaustion it creates but I still jump out of bed at 6 a.m. and get to my office by 7 a.m. most days so I guess it is not that bad.

Every day I work with students whose lives are not all that great and I am continually heartened as I leave each afternoon that someone's life was better that day because I came to work and was blessed with the opportunity (and responsibility) to assist them. At the start of this year I talked to staff about going to social events and being asked what you do for a living. Often, the answer "I am a teacher" kills the conversation rather abruptly. I told them that their answer really should be a more accurate reflection of what they actually do. I suggested "I am a teacher! I change lives!" because that is what we do every day, often without realising it. Of course, you CAN change lives in a negative way too and I reminded staff of the power they have in every interaction with students to change lives "for better or worse." I hope that my contributions have been largely in the "better" category.

It is quite difficult to walk away from students who rely on me for support. Many have asked me why I am leaving. Life is about challenges and opportunities. I would never suggest that after 18 years I am getting bored—there is never a dull moment in this job. I would never suggest that there are not



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**Principal**

Lauretta Claus

**Deputy Principals**

Robert Bredin

Beatrice Maricic

**P&C President**

Joanne Warner

**School Captains**

Megan Warner & Daniel

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enough challenges at QHHS – far from it. I do know that Wyndham has some different challenges and there is an opportunity to take an active role in solving those challenges rather than simply observing them from afar. Certainly I will miss a lot of individuals at QHHS but in my new role I will be visiting every now and then. Also, there is an opportunity to work again with the ex-QHHS students at Wyndham who have missed me just a little AND I will be there to welcome my soon-to-be-ex-QHHS students when they arrive there in future years.

Being at Wyndham College allows me to continue to make a contribution to MY community – Quakers Hill – so that is certainly a plus!

It is with great trepidation and mixed emotions that I anticipate leaving the assembly for the last time as Deputy Principal of Quakers Hill High School on Thursday 13 June. I will look back with great pride at my achievements at Quakers but I look forward too with a tinge of nervousness and a great deal of excitement as I contemplate contributing to the educational journey of Wyndham College.

Farewell Quakers.

Robert Bredin  
Deputy Principal

## VACCINATIONS SCHEDULE

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2013 Yr7, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dose HPV (All students)

Yr7, dTpa

Yr9, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dose HPV (Boys only)

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2013 Yr7, Varicella

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2013 Yr7, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dose HPV (All students)

Yr7, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dose Hep B

Yr9, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dose HPV (Boys only)

This program is only free when delivered via the school program run by the Department of Health.

If your child has not brought home the Vaccinations Forms please ask them to collect it from Mrs Brakell in the Welfare Department. Forms are due back by 28<sup>th</sup> March 2013 and to be placed in the front office in a Vaccinations box provided.

Please be aware any enquiries about the program, especially those of a medical nature, should be made to the Department of Health on this number: 9840 3603.



# Mutual support a benefit for schools



## PARTNERS

- Wyndham College takes students from Riverstone, Quakers Hill and Seven Hills high schools
- The schools have discussed sharing language teachers

**Joint effort:** Wyndham College principal Karen Smith and Quakers Hill High School principal Lauretta Claus support each other as members of the Nirimba Learning Community. **Picture: Gene Ramirez**

■ **What do you think of the network between schools in the Nirimba Learning Community?**  
■ **Your voice:** [rhsgnews.com.au](http://rhsgnews.com.au).

**By Jade Wittmann**

MAKING sense of the national curriculum was no problem for the eight schools in the Nirimba Learning Community.

About two years ago the principals of Wyndham College and Blacktown Boys, Blacktown Girls, Mitchell, Quakers Hill, Riverstone, Seven Hills, and Hills Sports High Schools established the network to foster professional relationships and share resources.

Quakers Hill High School principal Lauretta Claus said a joint staff development day across the eight school sites on April 29 was met with enthusiasm by more than 400 teachers across learning areas including mathematics, science, history and English.

"It was quite a big logistical exercise, trying to provide for the professional learning and conversations for all of those staff in different ways, but it was a very, very successful day," she said.

Wyndham College principal Karen Smith said her teachers had also gained from the experience.

"It was an effort talking my staff around to the idea that that there was some benefit for them, so it was surprising the feedback I got from them," she said.

"They did certainly enjoy talking to other schools and the professional dialogue they had with staff who were in the same faculty area."

## RUGBY LEAGUE AT QUAKERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL

On Tuesday 21 May Quakers Hill High School entered 3 teams into the Panthers trophy. Over 30 schools competed in a bid to play off in the grand final at Western Weekender Stadium, St. Marys. All 3 teams behaved very well on the day and their attitude was exemplary as said by the Penrith officials who were there on the day. The under 16s performed valiantly, unfortunately they missed out on a spot in the semi-finals. With great performances from Andronicos Demetriou, Daniel Kenna and Daniel Hooke the team put in a big effort. A big thank you must go to Mr Luke Barry, who assisted with all the preparations.

In our best performance in years, both 14s and 15s qualified for the semi-finals. The 15's placed 4<sup>th</sup> on the day, which was a great effort against 12 schools. There were notable performances from Brennan Nancarrow, Jarrod Vatusi, Charlie Wood and Josh Shea.

Our strongest performance on the day came from our 14s team, who were undefeated on the day, winning their first 3 matches, with an aggregate score 60 to 4, qualifying for the semi-finals in first place and going on to beat Bede Polding HS 16 nil. The team will now head off to the Western Weekender Stadium to play in the Grand Final in 3 weeks' time, with a chance to be crowned Penrith Champions.

There were some outstanding performances from Peter Fualalo, Debraska Rikiriki, Stanley Malae, Rua Henare and Nick Savage. A big thank you to all the supporters and parents who were there on the day, with special note going to Mr Paul Browne, who helped with pre-match warm-ups, Ms Joanne Hoeta-Wright, who worked with our 14s, helping with administration and team lists and Dimitri Demetriou, who was trainer for the 16s for the day.

Coach, Tim Macintyre



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## FROM THE MATHEMATICS CORNER

The language and symbols of Mathematics plays a pivotal role in our subject. Below is a reference list of symbols and their meanings to make it easier in terms of the language that is used.

+	-	×	÷
Plus Add Addition Sum Positive	Minus Subtraction Takeaway Negative Difference	Multiply Multiplication Product Times Groups of Lots of	Divide Division Quotient Half ( $\div 2$ ) Over (the line in the fraction)

= equals, total, the same as

> greater than, more than, bigger than

< less than, smaller than

$\geq$  greater than or equal to

$\leq$

less than or equal to

**Order of operations**—when solving an algorithm the following are the order of steps that need to be taken.

B Brackets which look like ( ), { }, or [ ]

I Indices (otherwise known as powers, exponents, indices) Eg.  $5^2 \rightarrow 2$  is the indice, roots

D Division

M Multiplication

A Addition

S Subtraction

### NOTES TO CONSIDER

- Multiplying and dividing can be done together as long as it is from left to right.
- Adding and subtracting can be done together as long as it is from left to right.

**Ms Kuldip Khehra**

**Head Teacher Mathematics**



## MY VISION FOR BLACKTOWN—Tell us your ideas!

**My Vision For Blacktown** is a competition being run by Blacktown City Council for Primary and High School students attending schools in the local area. Students can write a short story, essay, a poem or create a picture to show us your vision of the future of our City. Enter and be heard! Prizes are offered for the winning students as well as their schools. For more details ask your teacher or check the Council website: [www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au](http://www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au).

**Entries close and must be received by 4.30pm Friday 14 June 2013**



**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/>



- 7pm Group Training @St Andrews Primary
- 7pm Aquafit @Glenwood
- 7am Saturday BoxFit @St Andrews Primary
- 9.30am Ladies Group Training@Glenwood
- Personal Training
- Nutrition Planning



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## UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Girls: are you wearing tights this winter. The uniform shop is doing a pre-order purchase of tights. They are 70 Denier Microfibre, Luxury Opaque Tights with cotton gusset selling for \$8.50. We have some at the Uniform Shop to show you. Come in on Monday and have a look. Look at the chart below to find your size.

<u>Height</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Size</u>
155cm (5'1")	45-63kg	Sml
155cm (5'1")	70kg	Ave
160cm (5'3")	45-51kg	Sml
160cm (5'3")	57-70kg	Ave
165cm (5'5")	45-63kg	Ave
165cm (5'5")	70kg	Tall
170cm (5'7")	45-51kg	Ave
170cm (5'7")	57-70kg	Tall
170cm (5'7")	76-82kg	Xtall
175cm(5'9")	45kg	Ave
175cm(5'9")	51-70kg	Tall
175cm(5'9")	76-82kg	Xtall
180cm(5'11")	57-82kg	Xtall
185cm (6'1")	63-76kg	Xtall
Also Available in Ave+, Tall+ and		

Due to health regulations there will be no refund or exchange. Ask the ladies in the uniform shop how comfy they are. Put your name, roll call class/year on an envelope with your order and money. You can leave it at the office or at the uniform shop on Mondays. Orders close 12 June. They normally take a week to be delivered so put your order in quick.

Don't forget we have school scarfs available for \$10. Very warm.

The uniform shop will be open on Tuesday 11 June from 2.30pm to 4pm (due to the public holiday on Monday 10 June).

Reminder: The uniform shop is open every Monday 8.10am—9.30am (school days only). Check Facebook or the school's website for extra days. Students, if you are in line when the bell goes, still stay in line. You will not be in trouble for being late. We will sign your diary or if after Roll Call you can sign in at the office.

All returns//exchanges must be done on Monday mornings at the uniform shop (it is not the office ladies' job to deal with uniform problems).

Help is always needed. Please leave your name and number at the office and I will get back to you.

Linda Robertson

Uniform Shop Manager



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