

# CONTACT



VOLUME 21—ISSUE 5

5 APRIL 2013

NSW Department of Education & Training

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### Upcoming Events

**4—5 April**  
**CHS Swimming Carnival**

**5 April**  
**Contact issued**  
**Warragamba Dam**  
**excursion Year 8**

**8 April**  
**P&C Meeting 7pm—**  
**Science presentation**

**9 April**  
**Year 7 Parent/Teacher**  
**night**

**10 April**  
**ATSI Walk to Wyndham**  
**Rescheduled Art excursion**

**11 April**  
**Accelerated class excursion**  
**to Norton Street**

**12 April**  
**Last day Term 1**

**29 & 30 April**  
**Staff Development Days**

**1 May**  
**All students return for**  
**Term 2**

### QUAKERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL WELCOMES OUR NEW DEPUTY PRINCIPAL — MRS BEATRICE MARICIC

Term 2 Mrs Beaty Maricic, former HT Maths at Crestwood HS, will take up the position of Deputy Principal here at QHHS replacing Mrs Hourigan. Mrs Maricic is a highly qualified school leader with enormous experience in teaching in the Western Sydney Region. A big thank you to Mrs Karen Critchley and Ms Bronwyn Tweeddale who have been relieving as Deputy Principal and HT Teaching and Learning for the whole term as we undertook the process to fill this staffing vacancy.

I am also pleased to announce that Mr Adam Watson has accepted the position of TAS teacher here at QHHS and will also commence work next term. This vacancy was created by Mr Williamson's resignation last year. Mrs Amy Nichols from Sir Joseph Banks HS will also be joining our Music staff next term replacing Mrs Sewllall.

### YEAR 7 CAMP

Last Wednesday a tired group of Year 7 students and 12 staff returned from Camp. Mr Bredin was full of praise for the behaviour of Year 7 whilst on camp and many of the students I spoke to had lots of fun and made new friends. Many thanks to the staff who attended this event, without their support and commitment a camp such as this could not go ahead. Thank you: Mr Bredin, Mrs White, Ms Walker, Ms Gray, Mr Dezman, Ms Grantham, Mr Daghel, Mr Cameron, Ms Breen, Ms Romerosa, Ms Paa and Mr Kantek.

### PARENTS INFORMATION SESSIONS REGARDING CHANGES TO THE SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

Notes were distributed to all Year 9 and 10 students with the details of parent information sessions, on changes to Year 10 schooling. These changes include the termination of the *School Certificate* and the introduction of the *Record of School Achievement*. These information sessions will cover details of the new *Nirimba*

*Collegiate Stage 5 Certificate of Education* which our students will be awarded when they graduate from Quakers Hill High School. It will also provide details as to how these will impact their eligibility to commence Stage 6 studies at Wyndham College.

We have arranged two different times for these information sessions on Tuesday 14 May 2013— the same evening as our Year 8, 9 & 10 Parent Teacher Evening. These information sessions will be held in our school library the first starting at 5pm until 5.45pm, the second one commencing at 7pm.

## **PARENT TEACHER EVENING YEAR 7**

Next Tuesday is the first of our Semester 1 Parent Teacher evenings. Tuesday 9 April is set down for our meetings with Year 7 parents to discuss transition to high school and their academic progress to date. I would encourage all parents to make an effort to attend the evening and contact the school if your son or daughter has not brought home the information regarding the organisation of the evening.

A big thank you to Mr Paul Sultana for his organisation of this very important event on our school calendar.

## **UNIFORM**

A sincere thank you again to our parents and students who support our school commitment to wearing uniform. Wearing uniform ensures the safety of all our students and also impacts on our image across the community. As we move into the cooler months and students will begin to wear jackets and sloppy joes to keep warm, can I please remind you that the Uniform Shop is open on a Monday morning 8.10 -9.30 for students needing to purchase a new school jacket or sloppy joe. Unfortunately there are students who continue to come to school in the wrong shoes. There are disciplinary consequences for repeated uniform breaches.

## **HOLIDAY DATES**

Please note the last day of first term is 12 April with school resuming on Wednesday 1 May, due to the extra Staff Development Day provided by the State Government to assist in the introduction of the new Australian Curriculum

## **HOMEWORK AND STUDY TIPS**

Homework helps distil and expand on concepts learned in the classroom. Relaxing, getting organised and using good time management are all ways to help make homework less of a stress for the whole family.

For a host of great tips that will have your teen blitzing their homework, see the School A to Z homework tips under the homework and study link: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips>

[Remember we also have the QHHS Homework Club every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 3.15 until 4.15 in our school library. See Mr Head in the Social Science faculty for more information.](#)

## **THINKING ON YOUR FEET**

This week's most common question on the School A to Z parent website:

Q: What's a surd?

A: A number that can't be simplified to remove a square root (or cube root etc). :eg:  $\sqrt[3]{11}$

Here's some help sheets on surds. <https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/eppcontent/glossary/app/resource/factsheet/4056.pdf>

✉ 70 Lalor Road, QUAKERS HILL NSW 2763

**Principal**

Lauretta Claus

☎ (02) 9837 1533

**Deputy Principals**

Robert Bredin

🖨 (02) 9837 1747

Karen Critchley

✉ quakershil-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

**P&C President**

Joanne Warner

**School Captains**

Megan Warner & Daniel Marsh

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## BULLYING KNOWS NO BOUNDS

When cyberbullying hits home - what one mum wishes she'd done differently. Because most cyberbullying happens in the home, parents need to be aware of the technology that young people are using. <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/cyberbullying/when-cyberbullying-hits-home>

Have a great week

**Lauretta Claus**

**Principal**

## MESSAGE FROM A YEAR 9 STUDENT

Hi Everyone,

I'm Kaitlyn Hockey from Year 9, and for my Prosperitas project (Independent Learning Project) this year I am researching the history of the school. I will be conducting interviews with past and present students & staff and collecting data from various surveys that I will be composing. This information will then be collected and published in a celebratory book that explores our school's 20 year history as an educational Mecca.

If you know any past students or staff of Quakers Hill High School that have an interesting story to tell, please contact me so I can interview them and their story can be heard by the community. (I am very interested in talking to those that have travelled abroad, opened their own business, attended university or followed their passion.)

Also, if anyone possesses any photographs of when the school first opened or would like to discuss any aspect of my project further, please do not hesitate to contact me at: [kaitlyn.hockey@education.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kaitlyn.hockey@education.nsw.gov.au)

Thanks, and I hope you get in contact!

# DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

## WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE

Congratulations to all who participated for this worthy cause. As you can see from the before and after photos, Chris McRae (our boys' vice captain) was involved. He raised over \$300 and was publicly shaved after assembly on Thursday.



## Year 7 Camp:

After late scratchings due to weekend sporting injuries and the bubonic plague, 205 staff and students tearfully bid their parents goodbye and boarded their buses for 3 days at the Great Aussie Bush Camp.



For me the highlight was the number of students successfully ignoring their fears and taking on the Giant Swing and the Giant Slide. The "Wow, I did it!" boost to their confidence was amazing. Staff worked 24/7 as demonstrated by Ms Gray and Ms Romerosa sacrificing sleep to get their NAPLAN Trial papers marked. What dedication! To support their teachers,



Year 7 also had very little sleep (on the first night anyway).

As a caring DP, I delivered on my traditional offer to rock students to sleep (with a real rock of course!)

Having slept for most of Easter, I am now (hopefully) refreshed enough to finish the term.

Robert Bredin, Deputy Principal



## **VACCINATIONS SCHEDULE**

Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> April 2013	Yr7, 1 <sup>st</sup> Dose HPV (All students) Yr7, 1 <sup>st</sup> Dose Hep B Yr9, 1 <sup>st</sup> Dose HPV (Boys only)
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.

## **LEGS ON THE WALL**



On Monday 25 March, our Year 9 and 10 elective Drama classes were lucky enough to have the chance to participate in an educational Drama incursion. Our guest teachers were from Legs on the Wall. Legs on the Wall specialise in physical theatre, including aerial theatre off skyscrapers, acrobatics and circus skills. They helped us a lot, as they taught us how to use our bodies appropriately while performing and made us more aware of how our bodies move throughout performances.

We were given a 'tool belt' of ideas to make the physical side of what we do as actors more interesting and creative. We were taught different ways to enter into a theatrical scene, beyond walking or running. We also explored the different spaces and shapes our bodies make. Another workshop we did focused on circus skills. This was also another exciting topic, as we learned how to do effective slapstick comedy and how to be clowns.

The day was insightful for all students involved, as it gave us a chance to experiment and explore an unfamiliar next facet of drama, physical theatre. I am extremely privileged and grateful to have been given the opportunity to engage in such a rewarding experience.

**Erin McCready**

## $\pi$ DAY

On Thursday 14 March Quakers Hill High School celebrated this momentous Mathematical day with of course the selling of Apple pie with ice cream. It was great to see students see the funny, yet tasty side of Mathematics. Also some teachers really had some great fashion sense in the T shirts they came up with.

Some interesting facts about  $\pi$ :

- "Pi Day" is celebrated on March 14 (which was chosen because it resembles 3.14). The official celebration begins at 1:59 p.m., to make an appropriate 3.14159 when combined with the date. Albert Einstein was born on Pi Day (3/14/1879) in Ulm Wurttemberg, Germany.
- Pi is the most recognized mathematical constant in the world. Scholars often consider Pi the most important and intriguing number in all of mathematics. In the Greek alphabet,  $\pi$  (*piwas*) is the sixteenth letter. In the English alphabet, *p* is also the sixteenth letter.
- Pi is an irrational number, meaning its digits go on forever in a seemingly random sequence.
- Pi was first rigorously calculated by one of the greatest mathematicians of the ancient world, Archimedes of Syracuse (287-212 B.C. Ancient mathematicians tried to compute pi by inscribing polygons with more and more sides that would more closely approach the area of a circle. Archimedes used a 96-sided polygon. Chinese mathematicians Liu Hui inscribed a 192-sided polygon and then a 3,072-sided polygon to calculate pi to 3.14159. Tsu Ch'ung and his son inscribed polygons with as many as 24,576 sides to calculate pi (the result had only an 8-millionth of 1% difference from the now accepted value of pi).<sup>†</sup> Before the  $\pi$  symbol was used, mathematicians would describe pi in round-about ways such as "*quantitas, in quam cum multipliectur diameter, proveniet circumferential*," which means "the quantity which, when the diameter is multiplied by it, yields the circumference.
- In 1995, Hiroyuki Gotu memorized 42,195 places of pi and is considered the current pi champion. Some scholars speculate that Japanese is better suited than other languages for memorizing sequences of numbers.
- A Givenchy men's cologne named Pi is marketed as highlighting the appeal of intelligent and visionary men.
- The first 144 digits of pi add up to 666.

Much thanks go to the SRC and members of the Mathematics staff for their assistance on the day. Also thanks to those students who got behind the event.

We also raised \$100 which will go to Stewart House!

Ms K Khehra

Head of "N♥ $\pi$ " Mathematics



### **KINGS LANGLEY PANTHERS NETBALL CLUB**

are looking for players 10, 12, 14 years & seniors.

Come & join the hot pink & black Panthers, playing at International Peace Park Blacktown on Saturdays.

Find out more or register  
by contacting Bec Cameron on 0407 169 319  
or visiting our website: [klpnc.com.au](http://klpnc.com.au)





# CONQUER THE CHALLENGE

*Test your mental metal, feed your imagination and reap the rewards*

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The 2013 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge is raging right now and all bright sparks are invited to pick up the torch and ignite their imagination by being part of the action.

The PRC is a competition that is open to all school children in NSW, from kindergarten to year nine and requires students to read twenty fiction or non-fiction texts from innumerable genres and authors by the 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2013.

## **Why say yes? Why encourage your son or daughter to participate?**

*Well to begin with.....*

Of course there is the simple pleasure of doing what lesser mortals may baulk at. So enjoy the smug satisfaction of knowing that you belong to an exclusive club of excellent individuals that never rest on their laurels, sit on the fence or passively watch the parade go by. No, PRC participants are thirsty, motivated, fence avoiding, go getters that are dancing on the biggest float in the parade and whose laurels are free range and never abused for rest periods.

*And then....*

Research has proven there is a high correlation between students that read for pleasure and those that matriculate. So clearly reading exposes individuals to a plethora of new ideas and effective modes of communication. Students that read have a greater bank of ideas to draw from when they compose their own work and an ever expanding vocabulary that adds 'punch' and persuasive power to their writing across all subjects.

*And further more...*

Ultimately we all desire a bit a financial freedom, whether that be from a part time job flipping meat patties and applying the secret sauce at McDonalds or from your son or daughter acquiring a part time job that means you can actually afford to buy a secret sauce encrusted burger.

But **step one** in acquiring that desirable job, is a compelling resume containing wondrous letters of commendation from your local educational mecca. All participants in the PRC competition will receive a 'Letter of Commendation' from our Principal, a certificate of recognition from the Premier, and acknowledgement within their extra-curricular activities page on their school report (it is a terrible waste to leave that page blank.) They will also be celebrated during our formal end of year Presentation Assembly for their commitment to personal excellence and for being a stellar ambassador for our school. All participants move four steps closer to claiming a Principal's Award, after receiving a 'wild' merit award for each lot of five books they complete and log. (That's 4 merit awards in total.)

Finally our hungry babes, will have their physical thirst satiated during a celebratory pizza lunch at the conclusion of the competition. Their entertainment needs will then be met through a draw for Hoyts movie vouchers. Each book read represents a ticket in the draw.

## **THE HOW:**

### **The Reading Log**

You need to read 15 PRC books and 5 books of your own selection and record this on your official reading log. This log needs to be presented to Ms Lachevre and each book needs its special PRC code recorded next to it. A parent, guardian, roll call or English teacher needs to sign off on that book to verify that they have seen you read it.



You can acquire a reading log from the QHHS library front counter or download one from:  
<https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/readingLog.html>

### The Reading List/Book List

Where to start? You don't have to read from the QHHS library collection (though we think our selection is mighty good). Feel free to source your PRC books from wherever is convenient or advantageous. Draw from your personal collection! To clarify which books are on the PRC list check of the following spaces or places:

Check out the PRC reading lists on offer from the official PRC website:

<https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html>

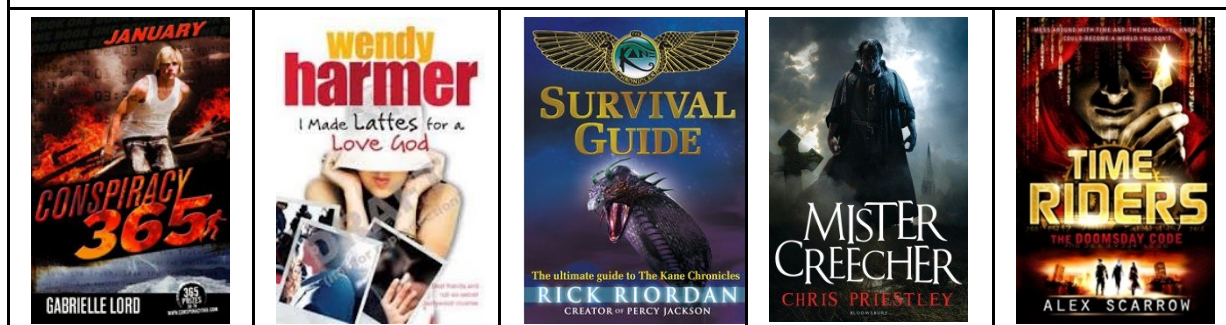
Or, alternatively check the hard copy lists we have placed on the library front counter.

Or, log on to your Portal account and open the 'My Library' tab and open the 'Reading Lists' tab and then click on the 'Premier's Reading Challenge' tab.

Or, visit the Blacktown library site to see what they have on offer at:

[http://www.libraries.blacktown.nsw.gov.au/Whats On/News/Premiers Reading Challenge](http://www.libraries.blacktown.nsw.gov.au/Whats%20On/News/Premiers%20Reading%20Challenge)

*A few choice books to wet your appetite...*



### So in Summary:

Enter the 2013 Premier's Reading Challenge Competition because

You've got gumption, guts and the drive for success.

You, like Eistein believe that 'imagination is everything' and everything sounds awfully desirable.

You want the power of persuasive speech and evocative writing.

You like pizza, movies, certificates, praise and the adoration of the masses.

And, you want the freedom that only a part time job at \$6.95 a hour can give a teenager.

***So do it.***

*Become inflamed by your own potential and enter the competition today.*

## RIVERSTONE RAZORBACKS JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB

Players required for the Riverstone Razorback Junior Rugby League Football Club. Under 10's Division 2 and Under 14's Division 1. Training Tuesdays and Thursdays 5.30 onwards. We are a family orientated club who always welcome new members. For further enquiries please phone:

Under 10's—Joe Shelton—0425 319 202

Under 14's—Trevor Hookey—0449 978 131

Under 17's—Trent Lye—0431 095 506

Alternatively, you can email your enquiry to the Secretary (Steve Kobeler) at:

secretary@riverstonerazorbacks.com or phone Steve directly on 0401 387996.



# EMBRACE EXCELLENCE

Applications for the 2014 **QHHS GAT** classes must be submitted to the QHHS Administration Office by Monday the **20th of May 2013**

## **WHAT YOU NEED TO DO .**

### **STEP ONE:**

Download the Parental Nomination Form from the school website

(forms can be found on the school website, under the heading "Curriculum & Activities" & "Learning extension".)

### **STEP TWO:**

Read the 'Information for Parents' section

Complete the 'Parental Checklist'

Have your child's classroom teacher complete the 'Teacher Checklist'

Compile work samples of your child's best work

Have this work verified by your child's classroom teacher

### **STEP THREE:**

Submit all documents in a file, sleeve or envelop to the

QHHS Administration Office by the 20 of May 2013.

Address these documents to:

*Karen Critchley (HT Teaching & Learning)*

*Quakers Hill High School*

*70 Lalor Rd, Quakers Hill NSW 2763*



*If you have any questions about the process call Karen Critchley on 98371533*



# WORLD AUTISM DAY –TUESDAY 2 APRIL 2013

April is the month of World Autism Awareness and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April was World Autism Day. This year QHHS raised awareness for Autism by wearing a blue shirt on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April and /or donated money towards this fabulous cause.

Thank you very much to everyone who supported the cause by wearing a blue shirt and/or donating money. It is fantastic to have such a caring and supportive community.

Autism is a lifelong developmental disorder that affects the way a person communicates and relates to others and the world around them eg. social and emotional, language and communication, flexibility of thought. Currently 1 in 100 Australians have ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder). It is the most common developmental disorder.

Throughout the world iconic buildings were lit up blue on Tuesday for the “Light it up Blue” campaign, supporting Autism Awareness. Please take a look at the website. It is very impressive. ([www.lightitupblue.org](http://www.lightitupblue.org)).

Thanks again for your support.

Jennifer Reid

Head Teacher, Support



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\$9.99 Children 15 and Under  
\$10 Concession (Student and Seniors cards)  
\$13.99 Adults  
\$36 Family Pass (2 Adults, 2 Children)  
Monday to Thursday 10am - Last game 6.15pm  
Friday 10am - Last game 9.15pm  
Saturday 9am - Last game 9.15pm  
Sunday 9am - Last game 4.30pm  
Mini Golf King is open from 9am everyday  
during school and public holidays.

**CONTACT DETAILS**

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# Marayong House - Youth HOUSE PARTY EVENT

**Everything! FREE**

*Be Active.  
Be Happy.  
Be You.*

**Wednesday 10th April 2013**  
**3:30pm - 6pm**

**64 Falmouth Road, Quakers Hill. 2763**

**\*BBQ \*Commando Course \*DJs \*Giveaways  
\*Music \*Prizes \*Entertainment \*Performances**

This event is brought to you by:

5-14 April

Marayong House  
Neighbourhood Centre Inc.

by sa

Family & Community Services  
NSW

Blacktown City Council

coles

DGN

Pizza Hut

J & L PRODUCTIONS  
A.S. Production Team

**Other programs at Marayong House Youth:**

<b><u>Youth Committee</u></b> Every Monday (3:30-5PM)	<b><u>Self-defence - Capoeira classes</u></b> Every Tuesday (4:30-5:30PM) Cost: \$2	<b><u>Youth Group - Cooking</u></b> Every Wednesday (3:30-5:30PM) Cost: \$2
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Contact information: Ph. 9626 3681 | Mo. 0402 155 559 | [fb.com/marayonghouseyouthservices](https://www.facebook.com/marayonghouseyouthservices)

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