1SSUE 09 20 June 2014

Quakers Hill
High School's
Fortnightly

Contact



UPCOMING EVENTS

20 JuneChess Tournament

Year 8 Literacy
Assessment

24 June AFL Year 7 P3 & 4

10W Post School Options excursion 12-2pm

25 June Giants Cup Under 16's

Support excursion to Blacktown Mini Golf

25, 26 JuneCAPA Showcase rehearsals 8.45—3.00

26 JuneSurf Lifesaving talk
Year 9 11-12pm

27 JuneChess Tournament

Reports issued

Last day Term 2

14 July
Staff Development DayUniform shop open
8.10—9.30am

15 July 1st day Term 3 for students



HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

RYPEN Camp P.5

Rugby League success P.8

Astronomy Incursion P.12

Outdoor Learning Classroom P.26

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

STAFFING UPDATE

Mrs Verceluz, who has been a member of the Maths staff for the past 12 months, has finally received a permanent teaching position at Eaglevale HS. She will start at her new school next term and we wish her all the very best and thank her for her support of our students and staff during her time at QHHS. Mr Ghobrial has decided he wishes to continue travelling the world rather than return to teaching, so Mr McKean will relieve in his position until it is filled permanently. Likewise the school and PE staff are very sad that Mr Brett Longstaff and his family have decided to return to England to live. Ms Schuermann will take care of Mr Longstaff's classes until the school permanently fills the vacancy.

SEMESTER 1 SCHOOL REPORTS

On the last day of this term all students will receive their Semester 1 report. The staff welcomes any questions or concerns that parents may have about the reports and their child's progress, so please feel free to call up and make an appointment to see either the teacher of a particular subject, or the child's Year Adviser if there are a number of concerns across a range of subjects. I know the Senior Executive is also happy to meet with parents to discuss their child's progress, but make sure you call up and make an appointment as soon as possible so measures can be put in place to support your child's learning.

U15'S PANTHER TROPHY RUGBY LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to Mr Longstaff and the U15's Boys Rugby League team who were triumphant over Kingswood HS in the final of the Panther Trophy last Wednesday. This is an outstanding achievement and Mr Longstaff was full of praise for the way the boys conducted themselves throughout the competition and how hard they all tried in the final game.

As this is the final CONTACT for the term I wish all staff, students and their families a relaxing break and will see you all a bright and re-









freshed day one next term - For staff Monday 14th July and for all students Tuesday 15th July 2014.

Lauretta Claus Principal

TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?

As the cold weather hits, so do the winter bugs. It's often hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover, especially when that means an adult cancelling work. For safety's sake, if your child seems unwell you should always keep them home from school and seek medical advice. School A to Z and the NSW Health have created an at-a-glance chart to help answer your questions about common childhood illness and how long sick kids need to miss school. Find it by typing this link into your web browser: www.bit.ly/1hytn2E.

TEENAGER'S SEEKING MORE INDEPENDENCE

Knowing how much freedom and responsibility to give your teenager is difficult, especially if they're your eldest or only child. To become capable adults, teenagers need to learn to make good decisions on their own and have opportunities to show you they can. The Raising Children Network website has a wealth of expert information and guidance for parents of teens and younger children. If your child is testing the boundaries and pushing for more independence, you may find the article 'Shifting responsibility to your child' worth reading. Go to: www. bit.ly/1jCxKhe.

STUDY HELP FOR HIGH SCHOOL

It's often quite difficult for parents to assist their children with their high school homework and study. Even if we have professional experience in the subject area, children tend to find it difficult to take parental advice when it comes to school. (Don't feel bad, teachers' own children do exactly the same thing.) www.khanacademy.org is an excellent, not-for-profit website which may help your

child study and revise tricky concepts in Science, Maths and the humanities.



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT HOUSEKEEPING AT THE END OF TERM

As this will be the last newsletter for the term, I'd like to take the opportunity to inform you of the follow up that both Mrs Mahon and I have been engaged in with the students. We both have been interviewing students who have work owing from the semester that have attracted N Award warning letters. The students are being held accountable in order to fulfil their outcomes in achieving the ROSA. Some students are being interviewed because they have fees owing for electives that they have chosen to do. Subsequently, this is a reminder that any elective that has consumables will require a fee to be paid.

Uniform has also featured in conversations with our students as many have not prepared well for the cold snap that hit in the last 2 weeks. Hoodies, trackpants and black socks are not allowed at this school and the students have been told repeatedly. For this reason, if a hoodie is seen by a teacher, it will be confiscated. As for other items of clothing that are not acceptable, if a substitute cannot be made, it could result in a phone call home. We ask for your assistance in following up with your child's uniform needs and thank you for your efforts in supporting the school.

CYBERSTUFF.....



I often get emails from this company and found this information interesting and hope you do too.

I have drawn up a quick comparison guide below of the ratings of 10 Social Media Apps that teens and kids are using (remember there a thousands of apps and kids change what they use like they change their socks!)

Snapchat is a 12+ app on the Apple store and on the Google Store it is Medium Maturity. After realising my error I became concerned because if the user settings are set to 'everyone', snaps can be received from anyone (once the user adds them as a friend) including porn bots! (which use randomised phone numbers), so how can this be suitable for a 12 year old?

Being concerned I did some intense research and came across a study about the inconsistencies' regarding app ratings between Google and Apple and decided to investigate it myself. I have discovered that the ratings on Google and Apple are not always consistent for the same app. Upon even more investigation, I discovered that the app developers, as I said, do choose their own rating but Google and Apple don't always 'police' the ratings. (Which, perhaps contradicts their policy)

Unlike movies and video game ratings which have a dedicated body to govern the ratings, there is no such body that I am aware of for apps (Google and Apple are supposed to govern their own ratings but do not work together to provide consistency), and app developers are choosing the ratings based on their own interpretation of the definitions supplied by Apple and Google (and some developers clearly get confused) This causes concern for me because people trust the ratings.

In saying all this I think the ratings are good as a very loose guideline, but at the end of the day anyone can pretend to be whomever they like online so an app designed for 4+ doesn't mean there are not adults using it too.

My advice to parents is to use the ratings as a guideline but to be aware that the ratings are not always accurate. The best thing to do is download the apps themselves and USE it for a few minutes so they understand what their child is using and whom they are talking to. No child should have free reign over choosing their own apps. The app store has anything and everything in it and it comes back to a responsible parenting to make sure kids are using what's age appropriate.

10 Social Media Apps – a comparison of ratings

Go to the app store on your phone to see what these apps are. Note the discrepancies in ratings between App Stores.

MESSAGE FOR PARENTS—STUDENTS LEAVING EARLY

If you need to pick up your child early from school:

Write them out a note in the morning.

Tell your child to take the note to the office before roll call in the morning.

The office staff will issue your child with an Early Leavers Note which allows them to leave class at the nominated time.

Your child will be able to leave class at that time and will be sitting in the foyer waiting for you when you arrive.

REMINDER—EVERY WEDNESDAY ALL STUDENTS FINISH AT 2.25pm

THE QHHS UNIFORM SHOP IS OPEN EVERY MONDAY MORNING FROM 8.10—9.30AM

App Name	Concerns	Apple App Store Rating	Google Play Store Rating
Facebook		4+	Medium Maturity
Snapchat		12+	Medium Maturity
Instagram		12+	Medium Maturity
Yik Yak		17+	Medium Maturity
KiK Messenger		17+	Medium Maturity
Whisper		17+	Medium Maturity
Tinder	A dating app that find people close to your location	12+	High Maturity
Tango	Allows you to meet new friends using your location!	4+	Low Maturity
Omegle		17+	Medium Maturity
Tumblr		17+	Low Maturity

GOOGLE PLAY STORE RATINGS

Everyone	Applications in this category should not collect user's location data or contain objectionable material. Applications should not share user content or include social features.	
Low Maturity	Applications in this category may include instances of mild cartoon or fantasy violence or other potentially offensive content. Applications may collect user location data for the purpose of providing location specific information or otherwise improving the user experience, but should not share the data with other users. Applications may include some social features but should not focus on allowing users to find and communicate with each other.	
Medium Maturity	Applications in this category may include sexual references; intense fantasy or realistic violence; profanity or crude humour; references to drug, alcohol and tobacco use; social features and simulated gambling. Applications may collect user location data for the purpose of sharing or publishing with the user's consent.	
High Maturity	Applications in this category may focus on or include frequent instances of sexual and suggestive content; graphic violence; social features; simulated gambling; and strong alcohol, tobacco and drug references. Applications may collect user location data for the purpose of sharing or publishing with the user's consent.	

APPLE APP STORE RATINGS

4+	Apps in this category contain no objectionable material.
9+	Apps in this category may contain instances of the following content that may not be suitable for children under the age of 9: • Infrequent or mild occurrences of realistic violence • Infrequent or mild profanity • Infrequent or mild mature, suggestive, or horror-themed content • Frequent or intense cartoon or fantasy violence
12+	Apps in this category may contain instances of the following content that may not be suitable for children under the age of 12: Infrequent or mild medical or treatment-focused content Infrequent or mild references to alcohol, tobacco, or drug use Simulated gambling Infrequent or mild sexual content or nudity Frequent or intense profanity Frequent or intense realistic violence Frequent or intense horror-themed content
17+	Apps in this category may contain instances of the following content that may not be suitable for children under the age of 17: • Unrestricted web access, such as with an embedded browser • Gambling or contests • Frequent or intense mature or suggestive content • Frequent or intense medical or treatment-focused content • Frequent or intense references to alcohol, tobacco, or drug use • Frequent or intense sexual content or nudity

RYPEN (ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAM OF ENRICHMENT) CAMP

Two students from Year 9 were given the opportunity to attend the camp to help build their confidence and leadership skills. Here's what they both had to say:

Liam Dewsberry and I were lucky enough to be chosen by Mrs Maricic to attend a winter camp for RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment) Rotary District - 9685 at the Blue Gum Lodge, Springwood on Friday the 13th of June to Sunday the 15th of June. We arrived at the camp on the Friday at 11.30am where we were marked off and given our room number. At the start of the camp I had a negative attitude towards it but then once I met new people and attended a few workshops, I started to realise what a great opportunity I had been chosen to be a part of. Some of the guest speakers had disabilities themselves and they spoke to us about overcoming adversities. It really made me think of how fortunate I am and it made me realise, that if these people with disabilities can still follow their dreams and be successful so can I.

We participated in team building activities, games and problem solving initiative tasks. I met a number of inspiring people who made me feel comfortable to face my own challenges and talk to me about their experiences. These people have had a positive effect on me and I will hopefully be able to stay in contact with them, as it has provided me with a new network of friends. Overall, what I personally got out of RYPEN is skills that I will use for a lifetime. It taught me that if you fail you have to go back and try again because in life you don't always get things right the first time. The whole RYPEN experience was amazing and I am very grateful for the opportunity.

Talisha Powell

I had a great experience at the RYPEN Camp in the mountains. We stayed at the Blue Gum Lodge from the 13th – 15th of June. While at the lodge I met some great people and some I can now call friends. I also learnt not to judge people by their appearance as regardless of how we look, deep down we are all really nice. What I personally got out of the camp was that I learnt to talk and make friends with all different people without judging them.

I really like how we got put into coloured groups as it helped me interact with new people and made me comfortable in contributing into every activity. We participated in many different activities, all the while working as a team to solve problems. During the camp I felt like I learnt to respect what I do have and to also appreciate more what I have and not what I don't have.

One of the main things that I can reflect on was the public speaking task and I can say to myself "I accomplished that". I delivered a speech for about 2 minutes but it was still scary. At the camp we had six different speakers that expressed their past experiences and also their journey both positive and negative through their life. These include:

"You are not your body" - Janine Shepherd

"Looks aren't everything believe me I'm a model" - Cameron Russell

"The power to choose and the challenge to change" - Mark Horton

"Mental Health & the Adolescent Brain" - Dr Gregory de Moore

"What does making it really mean" - Marlee Barber

"Living beyond your limits" - Amy Purdy

I would also like to thank Ms Walker, Mr Roma, Mrs Maricic and also the Rotary Club who sponsored me and gave me the great experience at the Blue Gum Lodge and I hope to go there again one day. I also hope that more children like me, get to enjoy the same camp I did.

Liam Dewsberry

It made me very proud to hear these stories from both Talisha and Liam as I recognise that both of them have struggled at times and lost focus on what they are working towards. I hope what they learnt will resonate for a very long time.

Mrs B Maricic

Year 7 & 9 Deputy Principal



MESSAGE FROM THE UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop will be open on the Staff Development Day, Monday 14 July 2014, from 8.10—9.30am

VISUAL ARTS NEWS!

What a productive first semester we've had in the Visual Arts department! Our clever and creative students have been extremely busy completing their units of work. From the *Abstract* to the *Figurative* and even the *Surreal*, our students never cease to amaze us with their commitment and abundant talent. Enjoy a sample of the work below from our Year 7, 9 and 10 Visual Arts students.

YEAR 7 ABSTRACT ARTWORKS



YEAR 9 3D FANTASY ARTWORKS



YEAR 10 CLAY HEADS









RUGBY LEAGUE SUCCESS AT QUAKERS HILL HIGH

Recently, Whalan Reserve was the venue for over 20 Western Sydney schools and 50+ Rugby League teams over five age groups. Quakers Hill sent two sides entering the U/14's and U/15's divisions of the tournament.

Despite losing their initial match against McCarthy Catholic College 6-0, the U/14's recovered to win their next two pool matches convincingly and scraped into the final four of twelve teams on points for and against. In the semi-finals the boys played well however went down to Rooty Hill HS, falling just one win short of making finals day. Mr McKean was very impressed with the team spirit and singled out Sam Mafi, James Nikas and, newcomer to Rugby League, Justin Jardin, as his best on the day.

The U/14's have also progressed in the Buckley Shield, a knockout based competition played state-wide. At the recent central venue Gala Day the boys impressed with their performances, playing controlled, disciplined, possession based Rugby League. They defeated Glenmore Park HS 38-0, Cranebrook HS 40-0 and Kingswood HS 28-6. By the time of printing, the team will have played their Sydney West semi-final v Erskine Park HS; let's hope we are still alive. In what were great team performances, Clayton Faulalo, Tom Hazell and Barry Cunningham played exceptionally well.

The U/15's commenced the Panther Trophy with a driven, disciplined and motivated approach seeing them win all three pool matches convincingly and earning them the right to advance to finals day. Corey Browne's organisation from dummy-half combined with creative play from Rua Henare and Debraska Rikiriki saw the boys deliver polished performances and some brilliant tries on the day.

The final against Kingswood High was played on a separate day at Western Weekender Stadium in front of a good crowd; a daunting prospect for the team. Inspiring captain, Stanley Malae and Nik Savage worked tirelessly to set the platform for halves Bailey Ward and Isiah Rudolph to create two exciting late tries for Luke Jeffries and Brandon Shillingsworth, the boys sealing the match 16-6.

This now means the team will progress to the State Finals, where tournament winners from all over NSW will meet to compete for the right to be crowned State Champions for their age group. This is new territory and a massive achievement for the boys, to have the opportunity to play against the best teams from all over NSW. As my family and I are moving to the UK, I would like to wish the boys all the best in the State Championships. I would love to be there but will be following results closely from afar. It has been a pleasure working with the team and the great attitude you have all shown. I would like to show my thanks to Jo Wright and Rose Faulalo for their work in washing the team jerseys, socks and shorts and just being there in any capacity when needed on game day.

Whilst on that note, I would like to recognise Mrs Claus for her continued support for the team, in contributing to the new team outfit, recognising student achievement and always supporting Rugby League initiatives, carnivals and matches. Also, I would personally like to thank Mrs Claus and, most of all, the amazing team in PDHPE for all their support and making my time at Quakers Hill so memorable. It has been a great place to be, thank you all.

Brett Longstaff

The teams are:

Under 14's

Hayden Moran, Nick Frey, Jack Micallef, Tom Hazell, Lolohea Kolomalu, Clayton Faulalo, Barry Cunningham, Hayden Banton, Brayden Younes, Aaron Wilson, Luke Sim, Sam Mafi, Justin Jardin, James Nikas, Josh Hazell, Selasi Glover, Adam Kenna, Dylan Martin.

Under 15's

Rua Henare 9R5, Ethan Cleland 9R2, Pita Faulalo 10R2, Luke Jeffries 9R5, Christopher Whitehead, Isiah Rudolph 9R8, Bailey Ward 10R3, John-George Richmond 9R8, Corey Browne 9R2, Jihad Mustapha, Nik Savage 9R8, Debraska Rikiriki 9R8, Stanley Malae 9R6, Kiko Talakai 9R9, Peter Brown 9R2, Jackson Jones 9R5, Raphael Gil 9R4, Ahmad Akl 9R2, Brandon Shillingsworth.









SUPPORT UNIT INFORMATION

Transition to Wyndham

This term 10W continued their transition to Wyndham College. During Week 5 they joined all QHHS Year 10 students, tasting various subjects offered in the mainstream curriculum. In Week 7 they visited the Support Unit, meeting teachers and students and gaining further insight into how programs are run. It was lovely for the students to see friendly faces of familiar staff like Mr Bredin, Mr Head and Mrs Sewlall. Further transition will occur during second semester.





Post School Options

During Week 8, 10W attended a Post Schools Option Expo held at Blacktown Workers Club. It was a fantastic opportunity to talk to various agencies who support students in their transition from school to work and in a variety of post school community programs. In Week 9 they will attend a "Try a Skill" day expo held at Mt Druitt. This excursion will give students an opportunity to try their skills in a number of different trades, giving them further insight into career direction for their future.

End of Term 2 Excursion

The Support Unit will travel to Mini Golf at Blacktown on Wednesday 25 June to enjoy their end of term excursion. This excursion was a request from one of our friendly students Brayden who will unfortunately be leaving us at the end of Term 2 as his family is relocating to Victoria. We wish Brayden and his family all the best for their future.

Holidays

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday. School will commence on Tuesday 15th July 2014.

Mrs Jennifer Payne

Support Unit Head Teacher



ASTRONOMY INCURSION

The Year 9 Astronomy Incursion took place on the 10th June 2014. A large dome was inflated in the school Performance Space, simulating the night sky. 105 students and 5 teachers tunnelled their way through the entrance to get inside the dome. This incursion allowed students to learn about the planets that are found in our solar system, types of stars, our star constellations and how day and night occurs. The students got to engage in discussions related to the moving of other planets relative to Earth and explored the life and death of stars. Students are to be commended for their excellent behaviour.



Mr P Sultana, Coordinator





NEWS FROM THE MATHS FACULTY

Term 2 has drawn to a close and students as well as teachers are all looking forward to a well-earned holiday. This has been a busy term with a lot of assessment tasks completed on top of the usual half-yearly exams. We would like to commend all students who consistently try their best and work hard in every Mathematics lesson. Clearly, they are making the right choice by being SMART in the classroom. Below is an excerpt from an article about choosing Mathematics:

Choose math because it is interesting in itself. Too many people - including teachers - will tell you that math is hard and boring. But what do they know? You don't ask your grandmother what kind of game-playing machine you should get, and you don't ask your parents for help in sending a text message. Why ask a teacher -- who perhaps got a C in basic math and still made it through to his or her teaching certificate -- whether math is hard? If you do the work and stick it out, you will find that math is fun, exciting, and intellectually elegant.

Choose math to get an easier time at college and university. Yes, it is hard work to learn math properly while in high school. But when it is time for college or university, you can skip reading pages and pages of boring, over-explaining college texts. Instead, you can look at a chart or a formula, and understand how things relate to each other. Math is a language, shorter and more effective than other languages. If you know math, you can work smarter, not harder.

Choose math because it is creative.* Many think math only has to do with logical deduction and somehow is in opposition to creativity. The truth is that math can be a supremely creative force if only the knowledge is used right, not least as a tool for problem solving during your career. A good knowledge of math in combination with other knowledge makes you more creative than others.

And finally,

Choose math because you will meet it more and more in the future. Math becomes more and more important in all areas of work. Future journalists and politicians will talk less and analyse more. Future police officers and military personnel will use more and more complicated technology. Future nurses and teachers will have to relate to numbers and technology every day. Future car mechanics and carpenters will use chip-optimisation and stress analysis as much as monkey wrenches and hammers. There will be more maths at work, so you will need more maths at school.

http://ubiquity.acm.org/article.cfm?id=1125361

Have a safe and relaxing holiday.

LIBRARY STOCKTAKE

There will be an 'Internal Library Stocktake' taking place from Wednesday 18 June (Week 8) to Wednesday 25 June (Week 9). We encourage students to borrow the resources they require before this time. Holiday borrowing will

Ms Melissa Lachevre, School Librarian

commence on the final Thursday of the term.

BARNIER PRIMARY SCHOOL READING

Fourteen students from Quakers Hill High School in Year 10 have taken the opportunity to help the younger generation from Barnier Public School extend their reading capabilities for around 30 minutes before school on a Wednesday morning during Terms 2 and 3.

Most people would assume we just listen to kids read, but we follow a process which also extends their capability. When we arrive at the school we choose a student to help read, go through sight words of different levels, do a "picture walk" through the book, and then the students read with our help. It is a privilege to watch the growth of the kids of the reading group each week.

The students that are participating in this program are: Bailey Allen, Sarah Andrew, Jai Astill, Ashleigh Bernecic, Brodie Bevan, Dylan Fio, Aloka Holland, Clare Miller, Tara Mohamadi, Athena Nikas, Sophia Panagopolous, Jaysal Prasad, Krysten Rock and Joshua Wadsworth.

Any student who is patient, responsible, able to read, and respectful of any level of reading should consider helping the primary students at Barnier Primary School; anyone that helps is greatly appreciated.

By Sarah Andrew and Ashleigh Bernecic

GO RED FOR CF- SRC FUNDRAISER



On the 27th June the SRC will be holding a fundraiser which will be raising money for Cystic Fibrosis.

Cystic Fibrosis is an illness that affects the lungs, digestive system and also affects a number of other organs and systems. This fundraiser helps raises awareness of Cystic Fibrosis through the school and the community.

To help raise funds, Quakers Hill High School will be holding a mufti day.

Students and Teachers will be asked to wear **one item of RED clothing** and are asked to bring in a **gold coin donation**. Throughout the day, we will also be selling merchandise and jelly cups to help raise extra funds.

All money raised from Go Red for Cystic Fibrosis day, will go towards this charity.

TAS FACULTY NEWS

Quakers Hill High is experiencing some technological developments in the TAS faculty of late, with the introduction of 3D printing into the teaching programs.

Mr Adam Watson has been working towards 3D printing being implemented across most TAS subjects and the faculty has so far seen the technology used for prototyping in Design & Technology, Engineering and Timber.

"So far we have sourced and set up one machine for the faculty, and have just put in an order for another more advanced model. 3D printing and CAD modelling is very relevant for TAS students because the application of this technology will be seen across many aspects of design and problem solving in society very soon. It is a big hit with our students because they love the idea that virtually any shape they can think up can be created in durable plastic."

One example of this is the students in Year 8 Technology, who are currently designing and printing their own balloon powered racing cars.



PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students on receiving their Principal's Awards:

Year 7—Cindy Despois

Year 8 — Sarah Branson, Sarah Thurecht, Kayla Wrigley (Bronze)

Year 9 — Bridget Aitchison (Bronze), Kaitlin Heggen (Bronze), Bryce Simpson (Silver)



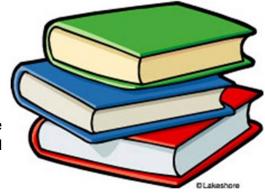
2014 SRC BOOK FAIR AND CAFÉ

In Week 5 of Term 3 – Wednesday to Friday - the SRC is hosting a book fair to raise money for faculty resources, with a percentage of our profits being given to Galston High School whose library and resources were destroyed in a fire. We are requesting donations from students and their families and would appreciate the following items:

Novels suitable for high school age children Manga/graphic novels Magazines Non-fiction books Poetry

Books will be sold for between \$2 and \$10. We will be selling hot beverages and baked goods at recess and lunch for students and teachers.

Donations can be handed in to the front office. Your contributions will be greatly appreciated.



SRC

YEAR 8: 'DIGITAL THUMBPRINT' WORKSHOP THURSDAY 14TH JUNE 2014

We recently welcomed Optus' free digital education program, Digital Thumbprint, to deliver their workshops to our Year 8 students. Delivered in class to students by a facilitator, the program's fun and interactive workshops are tailored to the needs of specific year groups. Designed to empower and inform Australia's young digital natives,



the workshops taught students the advantages of having a positive online presence and armed them with the vital information they need to stay safe online.

"The workshop was really interesting. The presenter was engaging; she interacted with everyone really well! I learned a lot about being careful about what information I put on the internet. It was really interesting and I would love to do something like that again!" – Isabella Ahmad 8R1

"After the workshop, I was able to know the strength of my password and how I need to regularly change them so my accounts do not get hacked. This will definitely help me in the future!" – **Adam Bargiel 8R1**

Our school has proudly joined Optus' Digital Thumbprint program in its commitment to ensuring our students are savvy, responsible and proactive members of Australia's online community. Overall, the program proved to be a highly beneficial experience for students and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. For more information on the program and each of the workshops we encourage you to visit www.digitalthumbprint.com.au. Thank you to Lauren Paa, our Student Support Officer, for organising this great event!

Ms Gray and Ms Josselyn, Year 8 Advisers











ENGAGING ADOLESCENTS™ PARENT COURSE

Parenting skills for resolving teenage behaviour problems

A three-session program for parents and carers at the

Western Area Adolescent Team (WAAT)

Buran Close, Mount Druitt, NSW 2770

Monday 10:30am till 12:30pm: 7^{th} of July, 14^{th} of July, & the 21^{st} of July

(must attend all 3 sessions)

Things you will learn:

- √ Things parents have in common
- ✓ New understandings of your teenager and what to expect from them
- ✓ Know how to talk and make decisions with your teenager
- ✓ Building relationship with your teenager
- ✓ Skills for tough conversations for handling those problems you just can't ignore

Registration Fee

This course if free

Afternoon Tea Included.

To register for this course, contact Sarah-Jane at WAAT on 9881-1230 by the Wednesday the 30th of June

What parents have said...

A step dad recalled an incident at the weekend with his 12 year old step daughter. He said that the input he had received the previous week from the course helped him keep his cool and brought a more favourable outcome.

A single Mum who had presented as quite anxious on the first night told the group in week 2 that she had made an appointment with her 15 year old son during the week and had had a far more favourable discussion with him than would previously have been the case.

Who's running it?

Sarah-Jane, and Paula will be facilitating. They have completed Parentshop's Engaging Adolescents training.

For more information contact Sarah-Jane on 9881-1230



• An end to the arguing and yelling! • It saved our lives • Simple, sane, effective •

Reading Recommendations from Our Library

The Tiger's Curse – by Colleen Houck

Review by Andrea Deller (Year 10, 2014)



Tiger's Curse by Colleen Houck is a story of adventure, betrayal, love and following your destiny. The tale begins with Miss Kelsey Hayes, a seventeen year old girl who just graduated from high school and found a part time summer job at the local circus. Here she cares for the circus dogs and Ren, a white Bengal tiger who she bonds well with. Mr Kadam, a business man from India then comes to buy Ren off the circus, to take him back to India, where he would live as a free tiger on a nature reserve. Mr Kadam offers Kelsey a paid trip to India to help settle him in, and as Kelsey agrees, she finds herself parting from her foster family and the life she has always known and embracing her destiny. With Ren in India, Kelsey has to learn to follow, fight and outsmart a beautiful goddess, a maze of lies, mystical creatures and many more obstacles that get in Kelsey and Ren's way in their mission to defeat the Tiger's Curse.

RATING: 🌣 🌣 🌣 🌣 🛠

Gone - by Michael Grant

Review by Kopal Mathur (Year 7, 2014)



Gone is a thrilling Science Fiction novel written by Michael Grant, which features a stunning collection of characters that captivate you, puzzle you and repulse you, as they face the greatest challenge of their young lives.

This tale story is set in Perdido Beach, California, also known as the FAYZ (Fallout Alley Youth Zone)

where there is a world without adults and everything changes at the age of 15. In Perdido Beach there are teens, middle schoolers and toddlers and suddenly there are no teachers, no doctors, no cops, no parents and no way to get help. All of this is simply... gone. To the confusion and surprise of the children who remain, a giant force field of sorts now encircles the area of Perdido Beach, preventing anyone from entering - or leaving.

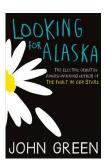
Some kids are developing strange but deadly powers which are strengthening as the days go by. Sam Temple struggles to find resources which are diminishing steadily. Sides are being chosen, people are being manipulated and it won't be long before a catastrophic fight arises.

I could not help turning the pages as truly I enjoyed the suspense in this book. My favourite character was Brianna (The Breeze), who moves at a supersonic speed and was as quick to join a fight as she was at ripping through the country-side. I would definitely read more books by this author because every time a book ends, it makes you long for more. I would recommend anyone from any age group to read this book, as it grabs your attention from the first page. People who like thrillers and heartthumping action scenes will enjoy this book no matter what.

RATING: かかかかか

Looking For Alaska - by John Greene

Review by Saraf Hossain (Year 8, 2014)



The famous author of The Fault in Our Stars has done it again, delivering a story that pulls on our heart strings and takes us on an emotional rollercoaster through pain, love, guilt and redemption.

Looking for Alaska is fundamentally a story about hope, friendship and loss. Miles Halter, a teenage boy harbouring an extraordinary hope that he will find a 'Great Perhaps', meets a mysterious girl, Alaska Young. Upon entering her reckless world, he collides with romance, true friendship and betrayal and begins to question how any of us can 'escape the labyrinth' and learn to love and to forgive.

It is a fact that once you pick up this book, its pages crammed filled with compelling and fascinating moments, there will be no going back. This is an incredible piece of writing that is winning hearts across the globe, reaching out to teenagers, like a romantic comfort zone.

RATING: ******

2014 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge

The 2014 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge is moving steadily towards its ultimate conclusion and reading enthusiasts school-wide are encouraged to seize the time remaining and read with pure abandon. This worthy challenge requires participants to read a mere 20 books over a six month period, selecting titles from an extensive PRC list that includes fiction and non-fiction titles and features such notable authors as J. R. R.Tolkien, Stephanie Myers, Jeff Kinney, Anthony Horowitz, Suzanne Collins, Garth Nix & Rick Riordan. It also includes books from the Percy Jackson series, the Maximum Ride series, as well as books featuring Max Remy, and books exploring the world of the Hunger Games, Harry Potter, and Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Conspiracy 365, and Astrix. The sheer variety of books on the PRC list is simply aweinspiring. Readers need to select 15 texts from the set list and are then free to nominate 5 books of their own choosing. All books read are then recorded on a PRC Reading Log, which can be downloaded from https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/readingLog.html or picked up from the QHHS Library front desk. Reading Logs can completed by hand and submitted to Ms Lachevre in the Library by the 22nd of August or completed on-line by logging onto https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/logon.html by the 22nd of August. (The submission date is a very fixed thing.)

A pizza party will follow shortly afterwards, for all those literary masters that successfully completed the challenge. In addition to cheesy goodness and delectable pizzas, participants will receive a Letter of Commendation, 4 wild cards, an official PRC certificate and will be invited to the end of year School Service Assembly to be acknowledged in style and in a timely fashion before Christmas.

That is a pretty respectable smorgasbord of awards, just for embracing knowledge and showing a little initiative.

Our hats go off to the following high achievers, who have already powered through the challenge and leave us in awe of their gumption and expansive literary tastes.

Tisaranee	Dissanayake	Year 7	20 Books Completed
risaranee	Dissallayake	real /	20 Books Completed
Arashdeep	Kaur	Year 8	20 Books Completed
Ashleigh	Kennedy	Year 8	20 Books Completed
Janani	Krishnar	Year 8	20 Books Completed
David	Woodward	Year 8	20 Books Completed
Meet	Patel	Year 8	20 Books Completed
Luke	O'Keefe	Year 8	20 Books Completed
Kopal	Mathur	Year 7	18 Books Completed
Saraf	Hossain	Year 8	17 Books Completed
Muskan	Soni	Year 8	17 Books Completed
Tom	Luckman	Year 8	14 Books Completed
Erin	Wilson	Year 7	13 Books Completed
Sarah	Branson	Year 8	12 Books Completed
Mabinty	Cole	Year 9	11 Books Completed
Alina	Bernecic	Year 7	10 Books Completed
Bryce	Simpson	Year 9	10 Books Completed

Challenge Completed Challenge Completed Challenge Completed Challenge Completed Challenge Completed Challenge Completed Challenge Completed

CAPA Showcase Rehearsal Schedule



Please note the following rehearsal dates for all students involved in ROAR - The QHHS CAPA Showcase. Saturday rehearsal details are listed below.

AFTER SCHOOL REHEARSALS

Wednesday	25th of June
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2:20 pm – 4:00 pm	Leads	Common Room	Notley-Smith
2:20 pm – 4:00 pm	Choir	H14	Tong
2:20 pm – 3:10 pm	Opening No. (Core G	<i>roup)</i> Performance	Space Roma
3:10 pm – 4:00 pm	Тар	Performance Space	Razbusek
2:20 pm – 4:00 pm	Rock Bands	H12	Cole

Wednesday 30th of July

2:20 pm – 4:00 pm	Leads	Common Room	Notley-Smith
2:20 pm – 4:00 pm	Choir	H14	Tong
2:20 pm – 3:10 pm	Opening No.	Performance Space	Roma
	(Core Group + Cultur	ral Groups)	
3:10 pm – 4:00 pm	Cheer	Performance Space	Razbusek
2:20 pm – 4:00 pm	Rock Bands	H12	Cole

Wednesday 20th of August

2:20 pm – 4:00 pm	Leads	Common Room	Notley-Smith
2:20 pm – 4:00 pm	Choir	H14	Tong
2:20 pm – 3:10 pm	Нір Нор	Performance Space	Roma
3:10 pm – 4:00 pm	Cheer	Performance Space	Razbusek
2:20 pm – 4:00 pm	Rock Bands	H12	Cole

Wednesday 10th of September

2:20 pm – 4:00 pm	Leads	Common Room	Notley-Smith
2:20 pm – 4:00 pm	Choir	H14	Tong
2:20 pm – 3:10 pm	Hip Hop + Opening	No. Performance	Space Roma
	(Core Group + Cultu	ral Groups)	
3:10 pm – 4:00 pm	Cheer	Performance Space	Razbusek
2:20 pm – 4:00 pm	Rock Bands	H12	Cole

SATURDAY REHEARSALS (2nd Aug & 6th Sep 2014)

TIME	ROMA	RAZBUSEK	NOTLEY-SMITH	TONG	COLE
HIVIE	Hall	Hall	PS	H14	Library
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Нір Нор	Musical Theatre Leads	TBA		
12:00 pm – 12:30 pm	(PS – 11:30 am - 12:00 pm)		Junior Ensem-		Choir All Rock Bands
12:30 pm – 1:00 pm	12.00 μ,		ble	Ch - in	
1:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Opening No.		Junior and Sen-	Cnoir	
1:30 pm – 2:00 pm	(All Groups)		ior Ensemble - Closing Number		
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm		Ton	Junior Ensem-		
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm		Тар	ble	Vocalists	
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm		al.	Leads		
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm		Cheer	Leads		

ENGLISH FACULTY NEWS

Congratulations to Year 10 this week for the outstanding effort that they put into their Macbeth assignments. It was excellent to see the high levels of critical thinking that students are starting to show in their extended written responses. The use of critical thinking and creativity was also very evident in the visual representation posters that students created on a theme of their choice from the play. Below is a Year 10 response by Kavya Mathur, who hand-drew her poster and composed a concise and thoughtful written reflection on the theme of 'All is not as it seems'.

Year 9 are continuing to learn and practise new writing strategies as part of their creative writing unit. Over the last few weeks students have been focusing specifically on descriptive writing, characterisation, dialogue and narrative structures. Below is a short, descriptive 'moment in time' narrative by Nathalie Despois, practising the technique of creating a setting that emphasises or enhances the reader's understanding of a character's mood or feelings.

Year 8 is finishing their unit on film techniques and are preparing for their formal unit test towards the end of next week. Students are encouraged to revise their understanding of camera shots and angles, sound techniques and visual design strategies.

Year 7 is working on their public speaking unit, practising the skills of speaking to an audience and learning persuasive language strategies to effectively engage and entertain an audience.

Kavya Mathur - Year 10

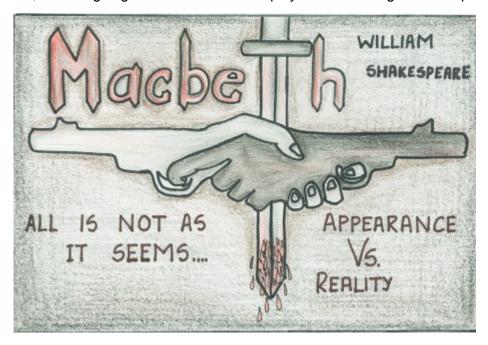
Macbeth: Visual Representation and Analysis

'All is not as it seems...'

Macbeth, written by William Shakespeare, is a play which, like all other Shakespearean plays, has a number of universal themes and ideas such as deceiving appearances, ambition, fate vs. free will, and kingship and leadership. The idea of 'deceiving appearances' or 'appearance vs. reality' has been developed throughout the play using various characters such as the three witches, Macbeth and Lady Macbeth. The play follows the theme 'All is not as it seems...'

The theme is first introduced in Act 1, Scene 1. In the opening scene, the witches chant, "Fair is foul and foul is fair." The sentence implies that there are always two sides to every story and eve-

ry person. The language technique of juxtaposition has been used to emphasise the idea. The sentence also sets the mood for the rest of the play. The audience get a hint that throughout the storyline, there is going to be chaos and foul-play involved along with deception.



The theme, then, reappears in Act 1, Scene 5 when Lady Macbeth asks Macbeth to "look like the innocent flower, but be the serpent under't…" She wishes for Macbeth and herself to fool the king by being pleasant hosts but at the same time plotting against the king to get him killed. The quote has the language techniques of simile and juxtaposition, which also help highlight the idea of 'Appearance vs. Reality' and convey the playwright's message.

In Act 1, Scene 7, Macbeth says to Lady Macbeth, "False face must hide what the false heart doth know..." Macbeth wants Lady Macbeth to put up a false face so as to hide what they both were plotting deep down – they were scheming to kill Duncan. When Lady Macbeth goes to welcome the king, Duncan refers to their castle as a "pleasant seat" unaware of his hosts intentions as they put up their pretence. This links to the theme 'All is not as it seems...' as the king couldn't comprehend what was lurking behind the false faces of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth.

I have chosen the theme 'All is not as it seems...' to depict in my poster. I have used the visual symbols of the hands which merge into a gun pointing towards the opposite person. This shows that even though people might look like they are trustworthy, they may not be what they seem. This idea of 'deceiving appearances' was observed in Macbeth.

The salient image is the hands merging into guns. I have used guns and a sword to show that 'Appearance vs. Reality' is a universal theme which existed years ago and still does. The sword also acts as a vector pointing towards the written material underneath.

The darker background is used to signify the unknown evil shadowing behind the false appearance. The title 'Macbeth' has been written in the colour red symbolising blood, rage and death, another idea observed in Macbeth. The black and white hands show two different people with a false appearance.

Nathalie Despois - Year 9

The pale yellow rays of the afternoon sun fade into the dark, grey clouds that squeeze together to block out any remaining light. A steady rumble echoed through the deserted countryside and the nearby trees whistled and swayed under the pressure of the passing wind. Even the birds hushed their singing and the only sound remaining was their wings, flapping desperately in search of a quiet place of shelter. Suddenly a splitting light pierced through the darkness descending to the ground in a jagged line.



Startled, Autumn woke up and glanced out of her window that allowed her to have the perfect view of the beautiful countryside. However it wasn't the sudden change in weather that had broken her sleep. She had woken up with her heart pounding and her mind screaming. As she sat in the sky-blue rocking chair that was positioned by the window she soaked in the view allowing the heavy, pelting, tears of rain to mix in with her own. Her salty tears matted her lovely auburn hair and stained her soft cheeks. Her lips quivered as she let her mind wander over the events that had occurred over the last couple of days. Autumn's shoulders slumped into the rocking chair that adjusted itself to her new position. Her feet were glued to the floor and although she was looking out the window her eyes had a faraway look in them that made it obvious that she wasn't focusing on the chaos and confusion the storm had created.

The hard, misty clouds reminded her of her own clouded mind. The ground trembled beneath her as the gentle rumbling outside grew into a terrifying roar. The emptiness in her own stomach intensified with every passing growl that erupted from out in the darkness. Another sharp arrow of light shattered the darkness as she contemplated the fact that her own world would shatter with the breaking of dawn. The tears continued to flow mercilessly even after the drenching rain had reduced to a slight trickle. The trees now stood upright with the only signs of a storm noticeable by the branches of the trees snapped at awkward angles. Once more the roar of the thunder stifled to a low shriek. The birds emerged from their hiding places and resumed singing their choruses. No one would ever know of the events that took place that night. As the storm died, the side of Autumn that nobody knew died with the storm and the pretend life of happiness that she lived would begin shortly.

UWS FAST FORWARD PROGRAM - YEAR 10 UNIVERSITY SKILLS DAY

On Wednesday the 28th of May, the following Year 10 students were involved in The University of Western Sydney's Fast Forward Program Skills Day at Parramatta Campus:

Gemma Deering, Adem Gundes, Jarrod Mathew, Toni Mclean, Elizabeth Micallef, Sarah Mottram, Sean Mulvany, Lachlan Nolland, Maddison Smith, Kasey Vincent, Matthew Walker, Erin Warner, Trya Wilson

An early start had the students catching the 7:53am train from Quakers Hill to Parramatta, before changing to a bus through to the UWS Campus on Victoria Road at Rydalmere. After arriving at the correct location on campus 20 minutes early, the students had a quick chance for a look around. They chose to head for food, most topping up their breakfast from Subway or the River Cafe??????

The aim of the day was to provide students with valuable tools and resources that they could utilise for helping to make decisions for the future and at the same time, provide them with an opportunity to make new friends from other schools. Throughout the day, the students participated in activities focused on developing students' awareness around the decisions they have to face in life and the ideas of choice, responsibility and consequence.

The activities were based on Sean Covey's book, "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens". The 7 Habits serve as a guide for teens to improve their self-image, build friendships, resist peer pressure, make informed decisions and achieve their goals. In particular, the students enjoyed participating in the following workshops:

Habit 2 - "Begin With the End in Mind" - Guiding your journey to further education

Habit 4 - "Think Win Win" - Creating balanced solutions

Habit 5 - "Seek First to Understand. Then to Be Understood" - Listening, Learning and Communicating

Habit 6 - "Synergise" - A team approach to exploring campus life

Congratulations to all of the students who participated in this great day. Once again, the staff from UWS expressed just how much they enjoy working with the students from Quakers Hill High School. A special mention goes to Sean Mulvany, who was selected by UWS Staff as the most impressive student during the workshops on the day. Sean was presented with his own copy of Sean Covey's book, "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens". Sean has indicated that he has already finished reading the entire book and found the content very useful.



Brendan Hutton Careers Adviser

OUTDOOR LEARNING CLASSROOM

Last Friday a group of Year 9 and 10 Aboriginal and Work Education students participated in building a garden edge wall out of sandstone for the implementation of our Outdoor Learning Classroom. They were led by landscape construction TAFE teacher Mr David Walker. The boys did a fantastic job of measuring, levelling, mixing and laying down the sandstone. The boys worked together as a team and accomplished a lot. It was impressive to hear David Walker, through his expertise, was no longer needed to complete the remainder of the sandstone wall. The last week of this term will see selected student involvement in the finished construction of the circle so that we can start to think about our seating, and traditional native plantation which will be used as bush tucker and traditional medicinal purposes. A big thank you to Sam Sale our General assistant and John Argall our technical support officer for their assistance on the day.

Mr N Stamatis and Mrs M Josselyn







MUSIC

As Term 2 draws to a close, the CAPA Faculty can definitely say that their students have been working above and beyond their teachers' expectations.

During the middle half of this term, a selected group of musically talented students were chosen to participate in an extra curricular Music Program, initiated by our Student Officer, Lauren Paa. With the help of Kylie and J.T. from the BYSA at Blacktown, students worked collaboratively to compose their own songs. Towards the end of the program, the students were accompanied by Ms. Paa, Ms. Mutch and Ms. Tong to visit a recording studio in Blacktown. Students were able to perform, record and edit their songs using professional recording equipment. The performances ended up sounding amazing, with the students surprising themselves on how impressive their recordings turned out. The group is to be commended for their effort and hard work during the program and Quakers Hill High School hopes to continue to work with the BYSA in the near future.











EMAIL ADDRESS REQUEST

Greetings Parents and Carers

PARENT/CARER SIGNATURE: _____

I am sure that you would agree that effective communication between the school and home is important. One means of communication is the school newsletter 'Contact'.

We have been concerned for some time that our Contact newsletter is not as effective in communicating as we would wish. It often does not reach home, lost without trace at the bottom of a school bag and sometimes our teenagers actively prevent the school communicating with you as parents and carers.

On top of this is the notion that a paper newsletter is expensive (over \$5000 every year) and given the increasing number of parents who use email and actually prefer it, we really need to get with the times and communicate with parents electronically. Of course, a paper version would still be available for those who require it.

Be assured that we are not aiming to overflow your IN tray with school emails.

We would like to start sending out newsletters by email thus ensuring that they reach the desired destination and saving money which would be better spent on resources for your children.

Please carefully and <u>legibly</u> complete the following and return it to school with your child.

Lauretta Claus						
Principal						
February 2014						
"	"	"	"	"	"	
	QUAKERS	HILL HIGH SCHO	<u>OOL - EMAIL ADI</u>	ORESS REQUEST		
CHILD NAME:			YEA	R:		
PARENT'S EMAIL A	ADDRESS:					
			\Box			
@						

SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENT TAXFILE NUMBER PROGRAM – THE EASY WAY TO GET A TAX FILE NUMBER

Parent Information Letter

Dear Parent / Carer,

The Australian Taxation Office (ATO), with the cooperation of schools, offers students aged 13 years or over the opportunity to apply for a tax file number (TFN) through school. This is a voluntary program and makes it easier for students to obtain a TFN. Students need a TFN for employment, applying for Centrelink benefits, opening a bank account or deferring university fees.

Applying for a TFN through school is easier because students do not need to show identifying documentation to the ATO. The application form is available from the school and students can complete it at home. The form requires information such as the student's name, address and date of birth. Students also need to provide the following details:

students born in Australia will need to provide their

- -birth certificate number, state of issue and year of registration, or
- -Australian passport number and date of issue.

students born overseas will need to provide their

- -overseas passport number and country of issue, or
- -Australian citizenship certificate number and date of issue, or
- –Australian passport number and date of issue.

It is important that the application form is fully completed and **signed by the student.** All information provided on the form will remain confidential.

The school will certify the application form by cross-checking against the information held on their records. Students are not required to show identifying documentation to school or the ATO.

PLEASE NOTE: Quakers Hill High School will post completed applications to the ATO 2-3 times each term (approximately every 3 weeks). Students will receive their TFN via a notification letter sent to their postal address within 28 days of the application being received by the ATO.

Enquiring on your child's behalf

Due to privacy provisions, parents of children aged 14 or older may enquire about their children's tax affairs only if they are registered as an authorised contact with the ATO. After your child has received their TFN they can authorise you by phoning the ATO on 13 28 61 between 8.00am and 6.00pm, Monday to Friday. For more information – Contact Mr Hutton at QHHS on 9837 1533.

CHANGE OF PERSONAL DETAILS FOR STUDENTS

(PLEASE PRINT)

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)

Quakers Hill High School

70 Lalor Road

Quakers Hill NSW 2763 Phone: (02) 9837 1533

Fax: (02) 9837 1747

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

Principal: Mrs Lauretta Claus



NEWS FROM OUR AG PLOT!

NEW CHICKS JUST HATCHED IN THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT. AREN'T THEY CUTE?

STUDENT OFFER 1

1/2 Head of Foils Cut & Blow dry for \$99!

- *Subject to availability
- *Must mention this offer when booking
- *Must present voucher to redeem

OFFER 2

20% off any Colour, Cut & Blow dry

* Must present voucher to

- *Subject to availability redeem
- *Must mention this offer when booking
- *Must present voucher to redeem
- *Subject to availability

Aspire Hair & Beauty, where your hair ambition is our ultimate goal!

Shop 4, 206 Farnham Rd, Quakers Hill 2763 Ph (02) 9626 0032

OFFER 3

High School Guys

Cuts \$15

- * Subject to availability
- * Must mention this offer when booking

