



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**18 May**

Primary Prosperitas Half-way Presentation in Library 3.30-5pm

**19 May**

ICAS Digital Technologies Exam

**21-22 May**

SRC Camp

**21 May**

Final Submission Date for Year 6 Diagnostic Testing Afternoon No. 2  
Adobe Excursion  
Pulse Choir

**22 May**

Year 10 History incursion  
Chess Competition  
Drumbeat Program

**26 May**

Big Science Competition  
Year 6 Diagnostic Testing Session No. 2—4-5.30pm

**28-29 May**

Blacktown Zone Athletics

**29 May**

Chess Competition  
Year 6 GAT Apps due  
Yr 7 2nd HPV  
Contact issued



## HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

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CAPA News Page 10

Gold Principal's Awards Page 12

Primary Prosperitas Page 15

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### MRS MAHON AND MRS MARICIC

I wanted to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank our two wonderful Deputy Principals we have here at QHHS, Mrs Mahon and Mrs Maricic. Term 2 is always a busy time at any school because it signals exams and reports, but in the midst of all of this the Deputy Principals have been completing very important Student Reviews. These reviews involve teachers identifying students who are causing concern in classes as well as students who have shown considerable improvement and those students who continue to excel. Our two DPs have very large numbers of students to manage compared to most high schools and yet they continue every day to deal with the concerns, issues and problems that arise in year groups, as well as collect all the data and process it for our student reviews. Despite this huge student centred workload, they still

ensure time is put aside to support the Head Teachers they supervise and provide exemplary professional learning for all staff as an ongoing priority and if that is not enough, both have been managing merit selection panels for staff vacancies.

Thank you to both of them for their passionate advocacy of excellence for the students, staff and community of QHHS and their ongoing commitment to our school, to raise the bar and see all our students be successful. They are both truly inspirational colleagues who make our school a much better place.

### NAPLAN TESTING

A big thank you to Mrs Critchley, for her coordination and organisation of this week's NAPLAN testing. These tests



Education &  
Communities

are very important and provide the school with invaluable information as to how individual students are progressing in literacy and numeracy, against national benchmarks. The whole process is a logistical nightmare because of the sheer size of our Year 7 and Year 9 cohorts, but the organisation and diligence of our staff make the whole event seamless and successful. Furthermore, the tests went extremely well largely due to the excellent behaviour of our students so well done Year 7 and 9.

Have a great week.

**Lauretta Claus**  
Principal

## **DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

### **UNIFORM**

I would like to congratulate our students and parents on the high standard of uniform and presentation that was evident throughout Term 1. I am pleased to say that I have received a significant amount of positive feedback from parents, staff, members of the community and the students themselves.

As the cooler weather arrives, students will need to ensure they wear the correct uniform to keep warm. Students are permitted to wear the school knitted jumper, the navy blue sloppy joe with the school logo or the Quakers Hill HS sports jacket. Hoodies, track pants, tights and black socks are banned items. Students are reminded that they are required to wear black, fully enclosed leather upper shoes. If a student is unable to be in full school uniform, then they are required to bring a note written by their parent/guardian.

If you are experiencing financial difficulty and need assistance in purchasing uniform,

please contact us to discuss the matter.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Thank you to all the parents/guardians who are responding to the SMS system. We have noticed a significant increase in the number of explained absences and in some cases parents have been very helpful when their child should be present and isn't. Please remember that if your child is absent, that an explanation should be sent in via a note on their first day back to school. If your child is in Year 9 or 10 and was absent during the half yearly exams, they are required to present an Illness and Misadventure form with a doctor's certificate attached. This can be given to the Deputy Principal if they missed many exams or to the relevant Head Teacher of the exam they missed.

### **ROAD SAFETY**

At the last P & C meeting there was a great deal of concern raised with safety at the front of the school. We ask that parents take the time to talk to their children about road safety on the street and remind them of road rules. The pedestrian crossing is there to help student's cross in a safe manner. We ask that parents take more care in the staff carpark and outside the school when picking up their child/children.

### **EXAMS AND NAPLAN**

Now that the Half Yearly exams are over, it's a good time for you to reflect on your results and ask yourself "Am I happy with my performance?" If the answer is no and you think it is because you did not do very much to

prepare for the exams, then the QHHS Homework Club might be for you. The Homework Club is supervised by teachers who volunteer their time to help you and it is held in the school library. It supports those of you who may require assistance with completing assignments, accessing computers/internet, studying for exams or clearing N Award Warnings. It is open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:10 – 4:10pm. In order to attend, students are required to submit a completed permission form to the Maths staff room. Please see Ms Grantham for further information.

### **STUDENT REVIEWS**

Recently Ms Mahon and I collated information from all staff about students who are working beyond expectation and students who were causing concern. With the data collated we are undergoing interviews with students and, in some cases, their parents in an effort to help them improve and be successful here at school. Congratulations to all the students who have been nominated for a commendation or for improvement in a subject. All students who were nominated in 4 or more subjects will be invited to a Presentation morning tea with their parents. Here they will receive their Bronze award.

### **YR 10 SUBJECT SELECTION AND TASTER DAYS AT WYNDHAM COLLEGE**

Year 10 have been quite busy in the last fortnight with half yearly exams, subject selection evening and of course the 2 taster days. The students were generally well behaved and most were able to get to Wyndham by 8am. As I walked around to see the groups in action, I saw many engaged students. The hard part for them now is to decide what to pick as subjects

for Year 11 and 12. I can only recommend that they choose their subjects wisely based on what they are reasonably good at. At least then they will be in courses that they want to do.



**Mrs Maricic**  
**Deputy Principal (Years 8 & 10)**



## ENGLISH FACULTY NEWS

All our students have now completed their half-yearly examinations and assessment tasks and we are now in the introductory stages of new units for each year group.

**Year 7** are starting their Novel unit with a focus on themes, context and characters. Students will be learning about the main elements of a novel and how these elements combine to tell a story. In their class novel, they will be identifying the themes of the story, how the context affects the story and the lessons that are learnt by characters throughout the story. They will be learning how to critically analyse and evaluate the lessons learnt by characters and how these relate to the themes of the novel.

**Year 8** have started a media unit focusing on themes of social justice. Students are doing class activities on the issues of child labour and factory farming in preparation for an online media task in which they will choose a social issue to research and represent. Students are exploring and analysing several different types of media text, evaluating which ones are the most effective in representing each issue and why. In this unit, students are particularly learning to identify and evaluate the persuasive language, visual and sound strategies used in media texts to influence the audience. The overall conceptual focus for the unit is understanding how the media can be used in society to give people a voice and the ability to reach a wide audience with their message.

**Year 9** is starting their novel unit with a particular focus on the concept of characterisation. In their study of the class novel, students will be analysing how the characters are portrayed and how this supports the development of the themes throughout the novel. Students will learn to identify the many different strategies and techniques used by novelists to portray characters. They will learn how to explore and analyse characters in depth and to evaluate the ways in which characters are developed within their novel.

**Year 10** is starting their unit on Shakespeare's Macbeth. In this unit, students will be analysing how the concept of power and its related themes is explored through the characters and plot of the play. Students will be watching one of the film versions of this very famous play as well as studying the language and dramatic techniques used in the written play script. Students will be particularly focusing on how the language and dramatic techniques represent complex aspects of the concept of power.

## SUPPORT UNIT INFORMATION

### **IEP Meetings for classes S1 and S2**

The IEP meetings for classes S1 and S2 will be held on Tuesday 26 May and Tuesday 2 June. Parents have been emailed their confirmed time. If you did not receive the email, please contact Mrs Payne.

### **Support Unit Swim School in Term 3**

Swim School notes were distributed Week 1 of this term. Could I please ask parents to indicate either by an email to Mrs Payne or written in their child's diary, if their child will be attending Swim School in Term 3. Notes and money are due in on Friday 19 June.

**Mrs Jennifer Payne, Support Unit Head Teacher**

## SCIENCE MATTERS

### Science Competition News

It is pleasing to note that students have registered to participate in external competitions such as the *Big Science Competition* and the *National Chemistry Quiz*. The *Big Science Competition* registration is now closed and the students will be sitting for this on-line quiz on the 26<sup>th</sup> May.

Students who are still interested in registering for the *National Chemistry Quiz*, are to request a permission note from their class teachers. The cost for this competition is \$5.50.

All students who participate in these competitions will receive a certificate that recognises their achievement, and a comprehensive report detailing their performance.

### Practicals - a fun way to learn!



**The topics being taught in Science in Term 2 include:**

Year 7: We Bought a Zoo- focuses on the classification system of the plants and animals

Year 8: Green Machine- understanding the systems of plants

Year 9: From here to infinity - topics include continental drift and plate tectonics, big bang theory and sound energy

Year 10: Electricity and Forces- Electrical circuits and Newtons Laws

**Assessments- Helpful Hints**

Although the half yearly examinations are over, students will still need to be completing specific assessment tasks towards the latter part of the term.

All year groups will receive an assessment task in week 6, which will be due in week 8. Students are encouraged to use their diaries to record due dates of their assignments and they **must** submit the tasks on or before the due date. It is also suggested that students begin working on the task as early as possible, rather than leaving it to the last minute. Rushed assessment tasks, while submitted on time, may not be answered well, which could result in a poor reflection of the student's true potential.

Students requiring additional support with their tasks are welcome to attend the Homework Club on Tuesdays, especially if they are experiencing technical issues related to the internet at home, to complete any research-based assessments in Science.

**Mrs R Prasad**  
**Science teacher**

**A WORD FROM HOME ECONOMICS / TAS****BY MR L ROMA – HOME ECONOMICS COORDINATOR**

We've had a very productive Term 2 in Home Economics. This term our Food Technology students in Year 9 learnt about Food Preservation and followed the ALARM Scaffold that was explicitly taught to complete an essay response for their Part B Assignment.

There were many students who wrote an excellent response to the question "Why is food preservation important?..." The Food Technology teachers were impressed by the calibre of responses. Well done to the Year 9 Food Technology students!

Year 10 Food Technology students will be going on an excursion to the Royal Botanical Gardens scheduled on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> of June. This excursion has been planned to supplement work being done in the classroom on the traditional and contemporary use of native bush foods in cooking as well as a study of Aboriginal culture and food. Students will do a walking tour of Indigenous plants at the Royal Botanical Gardens and will also do a cooking session.

The cost of this excursion is **\$11**. Students will also need to buy their own return train ticket to the city. All Year 10 Food Technology students are encouraged to attend as it will deepen their understanding of the core unit of work. The excursion will be supervised and led by Mr Roma and our Food Technology teachers.

Here is an example of one of our Year 9 Food Technology students, applying the use of ALARM on her essay response.

## **Why is Food Preservation important?**

**By Brooklyn Stewart, Year 9**

Food preservation is a very important factor when it comes to keeping your food fresh. Without food preservation methods, there are risks of micro-organisms and bacteria getting into your food. There are many types of different food preservation methods for all the different types of food. Some of the preservations can be used on one food and others can be used on many. All of them are effective and keep you safe from getting sick. To be able to preserve your food you will need to understand the different types of food preservations.

One of the most popular ways to preserve food is dehydrating. There are many types of food can be preserved for indefinite periods by extracting the moisture, there by inhibiting growth of micro-organisms. The easiest way to dehydrate your food is to use a food dehydrator. Food dehydrators are commonly used on fruit, vegetables, herbs and meat. To dehydrate your food using the dehydrator is to put the food inside of it (making sure none of it is overlapping or touching) and put it on for 60 degrees. Every so often, turn the food to make sure it is evenly dehydrated. Food dehydrators are very easy to use and over the years, the way to dehydrate your food has gotten a lot simpler. Once you have dehydrated your food, it is a good idea to keep it fresh by keeping it inside of a container.

The method of food dehydration is very popular and has been used for many of years. The taste of dehydrated food doesn't taste as good compared to fresh or canned food but it doesn't make the taste bad. It still has the same taste and is still enjoyable to eat. The advantages of dehydrating food are that it isn't too expensive to do, it doesn't add any sugars to the food and if mould does grow on the food – it's easy to see. Although the disadvantages of dehydrating food are that it removes water from the food which makes it higher in calories, if it's done wrong it can make the food rubbery and it can lose nutrients (depending on the food). The method of food preservation is successful to keep the food safe from micro-organisms although it can ruin/ make the food less healthy.

Another effective method of food preservation is canning which is also a very popular method. This method is done by putting cooked or uncooked food in a plated and lacquered can which is sterilized by heat treatment and sometimes high pressure. A safe and common method of canning is the water bath canning method. This is used for foods such as fruit, salsa, nuts, vegetables, poultry, red meats and seafood. The water bath canning method is done by first putting your can into hot water while you begin to prepare your food and then removing the can after a few minutes. Once the can is out of the hot water then you should clean it, put the food into the can and seal it. The water bath canning is a safer method of food preservation compared to other canning methods. Over the years, canning has become safer from our knowledge of what mould needs to grow. The packaging for canning is most obviously a can.

Canning is one of the most popular forms of food preservation, mostly because of its wide range of foods that it can be used for. Canning does change the taste of the food but in some cases people have said that it can make the food taste better. The advantages of canning your food are that it has great stability, it opens easily and it has a long shelf life. Although it does come with disadvantages, such as it can be high in sodium, high in sugar and doesn't always taste as

fresh as when bought. Canning does effectively preserve the food although there is a risk of the food becoming unhealthy.

A food preservation method which is not as popular and is only commonly used on meat is smoking. Smoking is from wood fires is used to form a protective layer of the meat and prevents micro-organisms from multiplying. To smoke meat you will need to have a smoker. Before turning on the smoker, you should first select your wood and decide which method you want to use (wet or dry). Then you should soak the pieces of wood in water and begin to get the smoker ready. Choose which type of meat you want to use, once chosen then either brine or marinade the meat and make sure that the meat is at room temperature. Place the meat into the smoker, baste the meat, once cooked then take the meat out and cover it with a small towel. Also remember to check for smoke rings on your meat, if you cut into your meat and see a pink smoke ring, it means you smoked it right. Using a smoker to smoke meat is an efficient method and over the years, smoking meat has become a lot more complex. Smoking meat cooks it well but there are risks of germs getting in the meat if the smoker is dirty. A container is a good idea to store your meat in.

Smoking isn't as popular as canning and dehydrating but is very popular in meat preservation. Meat preservation has been around since the 19<sup>th</sup> century and is most popular in Texas. After smoking meat it does change the taste, to give it a very strong and smoky flavour. Meat smoking has the advantages of it adds flavours to your meat, prevents bad fat taste and has a long shelf life. Although, eating too much smoked meat can lead to cancer. Smoked meat preserves meat well and gives it a good taste but there is risk of cancer with eating large amounts of smoked meat.

The final form of food preservation is pasteurising which is used to preserve milk. Pasteurisation destroys micro-organisms by heating milk to a high temperature and then cooling it quickly. Pasteurising is most commonly used on milk. To pasteurise your milk you should start by setting up boil system and ice bath. Start heating the milk and once it has heated then remove the pan from heat and place into the ice bath. Sterilize a glass jar to put the milk in and close the jar tightly before putting it in the fridge. Pasteurising is a very effective way of killing micro-organisms. Over the years it has gotten less risky and is a successful food preservation method for milk. Store pasteurised milk in a sterilized jar.

Pasteurisation isn't a very well known form of food preservation but it is popular when wanting to preserve milk or other dairy products. This method does indeed change the taste but also the texture. It isn't a bad taste or texture but it is different. Pasteurised milk has advantages such as that it has a longer shelf life and there is a smaller risk of sick compared to raw milk. Although the disadvantages of pasteurised milk are that it has low nutrition, doesn't taste as good compared to raw milk and pasteurising milk doesn't save any money. Pasteurising does preserve food well but it doesn't taste as good as raw milk.

Food preservation is used to reduce/ clear any micro-organisms from growing in food and also preserving food is something that is very easy to do. Food can become unsafe to eat quicker if you don't preserve your food. The big picture behind food preservation is most probably learning to keep our food fresh and safe for us to eat for a longer time. I think that we have learnt about food preservation so I can have a better understanding on how to prevent them from growing or multiplying in food and to keep me safe from getting sick.



## STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Over the past week, the staff at QHHS has undertaken specific professional learning in the *Performance and Development Framework (PDF)*, an initiative mandated by the DEC to provide a collaborative and supportive workplace environment, committed to the improvement of student outcomes through the upskilling of all educators.

On 7 May, Mrs Claus and Ms Tweeddale (the school Federation representative) presented the staff with the scripted documentation, detailing the context, processes and implementation of the Framework that will need to be followed to best support teachers in their professional learning.

On 14 May, staff had the opportunity to work collegially through a list of professional goals, rewording these and aligning them to the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) standards. An evaluation was done at the end of the meeting, giving teachers an opportunity to offer suggestions and ideas and the type of support and assistance they would require in completing their plans.

Staff were given a sample *Performance and Development Plan* to work with their Head teacher in a faculty meeting. The sample's purpose was to make staff familiar with the format and requirements of the new plan, and have an example to begin developing their own PDP.

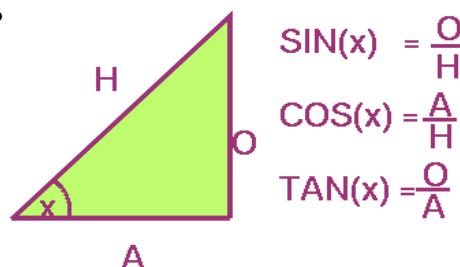
**Mrs K Naicker**  
**PL Project Leader**

## MATHEMATICS NEWS

The Half Yearly examinations are now complete and we congratulate those Mathematicians who have achieved at high levels and demonstrated their skills. Week 4 saw the completion of the NAPLAN assessments, with the results to be mailed to parents and caregivers later in the year. All courses now move on to new topics. For the remainder of Term 2, Year 7 will be studying Data, Time and Angles. Year 8 will be concentrating on Algebra and Volume. In Stage 5 (Years 9 and 10) the topics to be encountered will include Trigonometry, Data Analysis, Algebra and the Number Plane (depending on the course being taken). In a message of encouragement to those students who were disappointed with their Half Yearly Examination results, a new topic means a new beginning and a new opportunity to achieve at a higher level!

**Why are all the numbers afraid of 7?**  
**Because 7, 8, 9 !! Boom Boom!!**

**Mr Cole, Mathematics Faculty**



## CAPA SHOWCASE AUDITIONS AND MUSIC

CAPA Showcase Auditions have been taking place early this year with over 50 students auditioning for various vocal and instrumental solo and ensemble items. There was a very high standard of auditions this year and a second audition session had to be called to finalise successful students. Congratulations again to the following students who have been selected to perform for the 2015 CAPA Showcase in vocal and instrumental acts: Nik Asiata, Genesis Asuncion, Kayla Auld-Schuch, Jaime Bonsall, Holly Bramble, Dominique Burke, Ashley Commins, Vince Gonzales, Alanis Hawron, Rua Henare, Maddeline Iacano, Lily Kennedy, Jorja Kozlovsky, Jaycee Maglaglang, Clarice Pulmano, Maddeline Rochester, Taylor Scott, Lafi Simeona, Elodie Smith, Daniel Tapiki, Laura Towell, Micaiah Tusini, Tiana Tusini, Jade Walker and Sarim Zaidi.

Year 9 music student Daniel Foroughi is to be commended for his outstanding performance at assembly earlier in this term. Daniel performed a piano arrangement of “See You Again” by Wiz Khalifa featuring Charlie Puth. This song has been made popular by the recent movie release “Fast and Furious 7” and the school assembly audience enjoyed singing along quietly to the Daniel’s performance as he played. Well done Daniel!

Mrs Nicholls  
(Music Teacher)





**Year 8 Music – Playing the Blues**

### **YEAR 9 & 10 ELECTIVE PHOTOGRAPHY EXCURSION TO THE CITY**

Permission notes will be handed out this week to Year 9 and 10 Elective Photography students to attend an excursion to the City (Darling Harbour and Circular Quay) on Friday 5 June 2015 (Week 7). The purpose of this excursion is to provide Year 9 and 10 Elective Photography students with a site-specific opportunity to take photographs of the *Urban Landscape* for their 'Body of Work' which will be on display at the CAPA Showcase later this year. Photographs taken on this day will also count towards a major assessment task due in Term 3.

Students are to meet at Quakers Hill Railway Station at 8:30a.m. sharp and then travel accompanied by teachers to the City by train. Students will take part in a scenic walk from Dar-

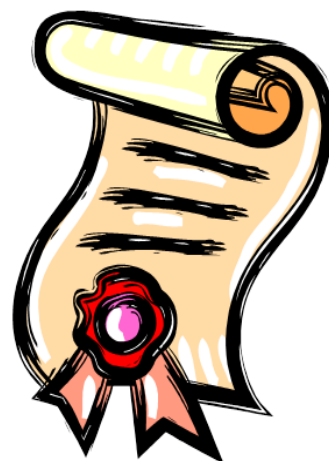
ling Harbour to Circular Quay to provide them with photo opportunities. We will have lunch at Circular Quay before boarding the train back to Quakers Hill Station. Students are expected to be dismissed from Quakers Hill Railway Station on arrival time at approximately 3.05pm.

The cost of this excursion is minimum \$10.00 which will cover the return train fare to the City. Students are to bring this on the day. Students can either bring their own lunch or bring additional money to purchase lunch from the City.

Students are expected to wear full P.E uniform. Joggers should be worn as we will be doing lots of walking. Students will need to bring a digital camera with sufficient memory for approximately 300 photographs.

***A notification of cancellation of excursion due to bad weather will be placed on the QHHS Facebook page either the evening prior or the early morning of excursion.***

**Ms Valatiadis  
(Excursion Organiser)**



## **GOLD PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS**

**Year 8—Haoyang Cai, Fleur Coolen,  
Madeline Rochester**

**Year 9—Stacey Grant, Saed Haji,  
Marnie Harris**

**Year 10—Boaz Villarosa**



## INFORMATION FOR THE PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF YEAR 7 STUDENTS

Quakers Hill High School is once again participating in the School Vaccination Program offered by the NSW Department of Health. The Vaccination pack sent home with every year 7 student will give details of the vaccinations being offered with contact details for the NSW Department of Health if you have any questions about the vaccinations being offered. The scheduled dates for vaccinations are as follows

- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015 – Yr7, 1<sup>st</sup> Dose HPV  
Yr7, dTpa
- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2015 – Yr7, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dose HPV
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2015- Yr7, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dose HPV  
Yr7, Varicella

Please return these forms by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015 and place in the box provided at the student window in the office. If your child is absent on the day of the vaccinations, please refer to the attached notice from NSW Health.

Maria Romerosa

Relieving Head Teacher Welfare

### Year 7 Vaccination Program 2015

My child ..... of class ..... will  
**not** be having the vaccination because

Signed .....

Parent / Guardian

## 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  
THURSDAY ALL STUDENTS  
FINISH EARLY  
AT 2.30pm**

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

## STUDY TIPS FOR MAY

### ***It's All about Attitude***

When students start secondary school, they are usually very positive and optimistic about school. Then things can start to get harder, a bit more challenging, maybe they get a bad mark and become discouraged, or maybe their friends start to influence their attitude. Some students are able to overcome these challenges, while others let it affect their attitude and application to school.



### **Take the time to determine reasons to put in effort into your schoolwork.**

*Think about which of the following reasons might be motivating for you:*

- ⇒ To achieve the best mark you are capable of at school.
- ⇒ To give you lots of options for what subjects you can choose in the senior years.
- ⇒ To give you lots of options of what you can choose to do when you leave school.
- ⇒ To have a personal sense of satisfaction about doing your best.
- ⇒ To show your gratitude to your parents for giving you an education.
- ⇒ To avoid getting in trouble from your teachers.
- ⇒ To avoid getting in trouble from your parents.
- ⇒ To avoid getting a detention or other negative consequences from not working.
- ⇒ To avoid disappointing your parents.
- ⇒ So you don't feel bad about wasting your parent's time and money giving you an education.

We often talk about 'carrot' and 'stick' people. If you want a donkey to move forward, you can either lead it forward with a carrot (a reward) or whack it with a stick (punishment).

Some students are motivated by working towards rewards, positive consequences of doing the right thing, while others are motivated to avoid negative consequences. Which do you think you are?

Understanding what motivates you and what affects your attitude can make it easier for you to make positive changes.

*Learn more this year about how to improve your results and be more efficient and effective with your schoolwork by working through the units on [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au)*

*Visit the **THINGS TO PRINT** page to download the latest **HELP** guide: **MASTERING MIDDLE SCHOOL**.*

**Our school's access details are:**

**Username:** quakershillhs

**Password:** 45success

## PRIMARY PROSPERITAS MENTORING SESSION NO. 2

On Thursday 30 April the 30 students from 4 of our feeder primary schools once again visited us during Period 6 to work on their Prosperitas projects. The projects are now well underway and are starting to take shape. There is an impressive variety of ideas starting to show within the projects and all students are very enthusiastic. Our QHHS student mentors are doing an outstanding job sitting with their allocated primary students and guiding them through the process of completing their extended project. Our students are showing very impressive listening skills and are positively supporting their students through the array of tasks that are being worked on.

On Monday 18 May there is a 'Halfway Presentation' session from 3.30-5.00pm in our school library which is open for all interested members of the school community to attend. At this session, students will be stationed at desks around the library to show the progress they have made with their projects at this halfway point. This session is an opportunity for students to receive positive feedback and suggestions about their projects and for the school community to see what is being accomplished by our students. This is a very exciting project and we are proud of the relationships being formed between the students and staff of all five schools involved.

Below are some photos of the mentoring session, with the student mentoring pairs having fun working together.

### Ms Tweeddale







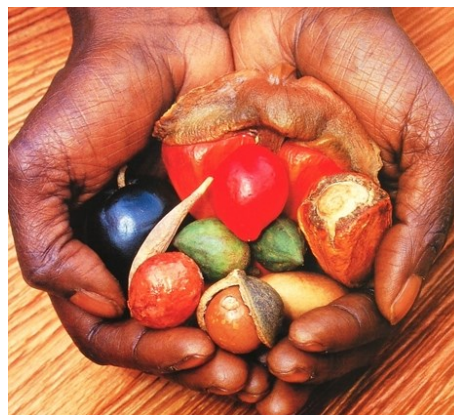
## TAS FACULTY NEWS

The TAS faculty wish to let parents of Year 10 students know that a Bush Foods Excursion is being planned for later in the term. We encourage all Year 10 Food Technology students to attend this as it looks at course work in an interesting and hands-on way. The students will be out all day attending class at the Botanical Gardens. Notes for this can be found with the TAS teachers and on the school facebook page.

Now that examinations are coming to an end, students will be continuing to focus on practical tasks and beginning new learning on topics like nutrition.

Child Studies will continue with practical lessons also developing skills and knowledge in the area of play and how children learn. Students with outstanding assessments are encouraged to seek assistance at school to complete these prior to report time.

A reminder about Fees: Some students are reminded that practical subjects have fees and not paying these will leave students unable to continue with new work, as their materials may be held up. Students have been reminded and Mr Wright has sent emails home to parents of students affected.







# QUAKERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL

70 Lalor Road, Quakers Hill NSW 2763 PHONE: (02) 9837 1533 FAX: (02) 9837 1747

E-MAIL: quakershil-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

PRINCIPAL: Mrs. Lauretta Claus



Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In preparation for the 2015 QHHS CAPA Showcase, all cast and crew members are expected to attend technical and dress rehearsals. These rehearsals are a necessary part of mounting a polished and successful show and it is anticipated that all Showcase participants will make themselves available for these practices, as well as any additional rehearsals requested by their supervising teacher for the duration of the show's rehearsal period. These rehearsals will culminate in our Term 4 performance of 'Vivacity', scheduled for the 9<sup>th</sup> (Matinee), 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> of November, during Week 6.

Students are advised to return this note to Ms Lachevre by Wednesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of June, in Week 10 of Term 2. After each rehearsal and performance evening, arrangements will need to be made for your child's prompt transportation home.

The QHHS rehearsal details are as follows:

Tuesday the 3 <sup>rd</sup> of November	(3:30 pm – 8:00 pm)	Full Rehearsal	(Hall)
Thursday the 5 <sup>th</sup> of November	(8:45 am – 7:00 pm)	Technical Run-Through	(Hall)
Friday the 6 <sup>th</sup> of November	(8:45 am – 7:00 pm)	Dress Rehearsal	(Hall)
Monday the 9 <sup>th</sup> of November	(8:45 am – 12:30 pm)	Matinee Performance	(Hall)
Tuesday the 10 <sup>th</sup> of November	(5:45 pm – 10:00 pm)	Performance Evening No.1	(PS)
Wednesday the 11 <sup>th</sup> of November	(5:45 pm – 10:00 pm)	Performance Evening No.2	(PS)

Sincerely yours,

  
Melissa Lachevre  
Vivacity Producer

## RETURN SLIP

I give permission for my son/daughter \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the QHHS CAPA Showcase rehearsals and performances on the following dates:

<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday the 3 <sup>rd</sup> of November	(3:30 pm – 8:00 pm)	Full Rehearsal	(Hall)
<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday the 5 <sup>th</sup> of November	(8:45 am – 7:00 pm)	Technical Run-Through	(Hall)
<input type="checkbox"/> Friday the 6 <sup>th</sup> of November	(8:45 am – 7:00 pm)	Dress Rehearsal	(Hall)
<input type="checkbox"/> Monday the 9 <sup>th</sup> of November	(8:45 am – 12:30 pm)	Matinee Performance	(Hall)
<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday the 10 <sup>th</sup> of November	(5:45 pm – 10:00 pm)	Performance Evening No.1	(PS)
<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday the 11 <sup>th</sup> of November	(5:45 pm – 10:00 pm)	Performance Evening No.2	(PS)

I am aware that I will need to make arrangements for my child's prompt transportation home after each event.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (parent) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# EMBRACING EXCELLENCE



Applications for the 2016 QHHS GAT classes must be submitted to the QHHS Administration Office by Friday the **29th of May 2015**.

## 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, envelop or on a USB to the QHHS Administration Office by the 29th of May 2015.

Address these documents to:



Karen Critchley (HT Teaching & Learning)

Quakers Hill High School

70 Lalor Rd, Quakers Hill NSW 2763

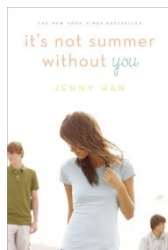
**GAT  
APPLICATIONS  
CLOSING  
SOON**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROCESS CALL KAREN CRITCHLEY ON 98371533**

## Reading Recommendations from our Library Leaders

### ***It's Not Summer Without You*– By Jenny Han**

Review by Vipneet Kaur (Year 9, 2015)

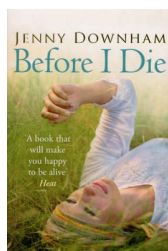


Belly always counted the days until summer, but not this year. Not after Susannah got sick again and Conrad stopped caring. Everything that was right and good has fallen apart; leaving Belly wishing summer would never come. But when Jeremiah calls saying Conrad has disappeared, Belly knows what she must do to make things right again. And it can only happen back at the beach house with the three of them together, the way things used to be. 'It's Not Summer Without You' is a wonderful, beautiful and riveting novel, that I can't get out of my head! This book alternates between both Belly and Jeremiah's viewpoints, which I really enjoyed. It was interesting to see different perspectives on the same situation. We are privy to how each character deals with devastating events and both love and loss. Despite the serious subject matter and the struggles of the central characters, the author still creates a tale that is full of life and manages to retain its summery feel. Jenny Han has composed a story that is an enthralling blend of family and parental tensions, vivid flashbacks, and a moving love triangle.

**RATING:** ★★★★★

### ***Before I Die* – by Jenny Downham**

Janani Krishnar (Year 9, 2015)

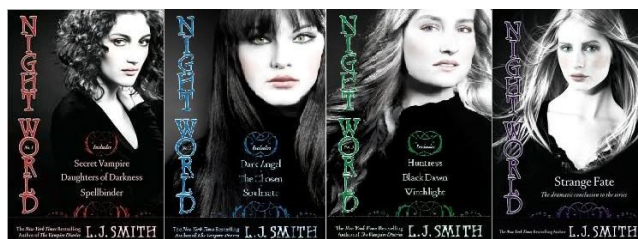


*Before I Die*, by Jenny Downham, will take you on an emotional rollercoaster ride. This soulful story is quite a tear jerker and has captured many readers' attention because of the intense and unique plot. Tessa is a 16 year old girl who only has months to live. Throughout the remainder of her life, she has established a To-Do-List of all the things she wants to feel, do or experience before she dies. As Tessa begins her journey, her weakening body struggles to keep up with her ambitions, but Tessa is relentless and pushes on, finding the strength to make each day count. In those last precious moments she finds love, understanding and intimacy. This story is pretty confronting. Young people dying is a dark topic, but Jenny Downham writes this story with honesty and heart. So if you like drama, realism and a story about self-discovery, then this book is for you.

**RATING:** ★★★★★

## Night World Series – by L. J. Smith

Casey Jobson (Year 9, 2015)

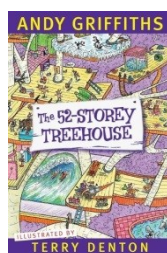


Night World is a series of ten young-adult fantasy novels written by American author L. J. Smith. The series presents a story in which vampires, witches, werewolves and shape shifters live among humans without their knowledge. Those supernatural races make up a secret society known as the Night World, which enforces two laws to prevent discovery; 1) never allow humans to gain knowledge of the Night World and, 2) never fall in love with a human. Each volume of the series follows a different protagonist (always a teenage girl), who must face various challenges involving love, the “soulmate principle”, and the Night World’s strict code. In the first six novels, the plot focuses on the protagonist discovering her soulmate and the danger that ensues. In the seventh book of the series, the concept of an impending millennial apocalypse is introduced. Although the “soulmate principle” continues to be present, the later books’ plot focuses on the search for four “Wild Powers” who, according to an ancient prophecy, will either save the world or aid in its destruction. Books from the series appeared on the New York Times Bestseller List for children’s books in 2008 and 2009. The concluding book in the series, *Strange Fate*, has been delayed for over a decade, and the release date is currently unconfirmed, with various websites stating different released dates. On January 22, 2012, in response to a fan’s question regarding the publication of *Strange Fate*, L. J. Smith stated on her website “*Strange Fate* will come out when I finish writing it. It is a very, very long book. I promise I’m working on it now.” For fans of the supernatural genre, I believe that it will be well worth the wait.

**RATING:** ★★★★★

## The 52-Storey Treehouse - by Andy Griffiths

Jordan Ayyad (Year 8, 2015)



Andy Griffiths is at it again. This fantastic book is the fourth of his well-known and even more well-loved “Treehouse” Series. In this book Andy and Terry Denton go on another comical adventure after already adding another 13 storeys to their already amazing treehouse. Some things they have added are- a watermelon-smashing level, a Ninja Snail Training Academy, and a life-size snakes and ladders game (with real snakes and real ladders)! The basic plot of the book is that Mr Big Nose goes missing, and it’s up to Andy and Terry to find him. The think I especially loved about the book is Andy Griffiths’ classic sense of comedy. His books never get boring and always bring out the laughs of even the dullest person. Another thing I love is how captivating it is. You can read for hours and hours and it will only feel like 5 minutes. The characters are also hilarious, especially when they become semi-self-aware. Personally, I cannot wait for “The 65-Storey Treehouse” to come out. September seems like such a long time away.



The last thing I want to mention about the book is how it fits in perfectly with the rest of the series and how it actually is part of a series unlike most of his other books. Overall, this is indeed an outstanding book and I would recommend for readers young and old to start reading from the beginning, “The 13-Storey Treehouse”, and save the best for last. I am rating this book an overwhelming 5/5.

**RATING:** ★★★★★

The QHHS closing date for the 2015 PRC Competition is the 21st of August. That means, avid readers and dedicated scholars, that you have a little over three months to finalise your Reading Logs, enter them on-line or present your log to Ms Lachevre and be on your way to a sumptuous, pizza-laden lunch and commendations galore.

## The Premier’s Reading Challenge is Going Strong

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### To Recap:

For the challenge you must read 20 books. 5 of which can your personal choice  
15 of which must be selected from an extensive and diverse PRC Book List (*To view this list, please visit: <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html>*)

- You must document and track the books you read on your official PRC Reading Log (Available from the Library front counter)
- You will receive a QHHS Merit Award for each lot of 5 books you complete
- You will receive a QHHS Letter of Commendation for completing the PRC Competition
- You will receive an official PRC Certificate for completing the PRC Competition
- Your name will appear in an edition of the Sydney Morning Herald
- You will be congratulated at assembly
- Your participation will be recorded and celebrated within your report
- You will be invited to a celebratory pizza lunch with your fellow participants
- You will go in the draw to receive a Hoyts movie card

### A Few PRC Myths Debunked:

- You aren’t obliged to borrow your PRC books from your school library (though we do have an extensive list). You can read copies of books that you own or friends and family might happily loan to you, or you might borrow books from the Stanhope or Blacktown Library.
- You may think that it is too late to enter, but that is simply not the case. With 3 months and small change remaining, you can definitely read a few meaty fictional texts and enjoy various manga books and graphic novels and several non-fiction texts exploring anything from Ancient Egypt to coastal erosion and still make the deadline.

We encourage you to talk to our obliging Library Monitors or Ms Lachevre and Mrs Pearce, as they can make book recommendations that reflect the genre, book length, themes and time restraints that matter to you.

### Who Has ‘Aced It’ so Far?

Zoe Morgan	20 Books	Luke O'Keeffe	20 Books
Meet Patel	20 Books	David Woodward	20 Books
Lindsay Bath	18 Books	Michael Cook	14 Books
Abbey Fraser	14 Books	Sarah Branson	13 Books
Kopal Mathur	12 Books	Oliver Arreza	11 Books
Camryn Batchelor	10 Books	Emma Goldsworthy	10 Books
Saraf Hossain	10 Books	Tamasha Jayawardena	10 Books
Janani Krishnar	10 Books	Muskan Soni	10 Books

## CAPA SHOWCASE COMMEMORATIVE T-SHIRTS

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Time is ticking on, and for those fashionistas intent on purchasing a 'Vivacity' commemorative t-shirt, time is almost running out. Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of May is the final day to make your \$25 payment to the QHHS front office. So, if you are involved in this year's phenomenal show as a performer or crew member, why not secure yourself a fabulous memento and keepsake. Sample sizes are available in the library for fittings during Recess and Lunch, to assist you with ordering the most complimentary shirt for your physique.

Mrs Claus has granted students permission to wear this shirt as part of their school uniform in the two weeks leading up to the show in Term 4 (Weeks 4 & 5).





Education &  
Communities

# No knives at school

## Student Fact Sheet

SAFETY AND SECURITY DIRECTORATE

***There is no good reason to bring a knife to school.***

It's against the law for students to have a knife in a public place or at school. NSW now has the toughest knife laws in Australia and you need to be aware of these laws.

### No knives allowed at school under any circumstances.

- You are not allowed to have any type of knife at school, including flick knives, ballistic knives, sheath knives, push daggers, trench knives, butterfly knives, star knives or any item that can be used as a weapon (such as a chisel).
- Your principal may call the police and you may be expelled or suspended from school immediately if you are found possessing or carrying a knife.
- You can now receive a fine of over \$2,000 or be sent to gaol for many years for knife related offences.
- This may happen even if you just have it at school in your bag or locker, and don't use the knife, or threaten anyone with it.
- You are not allowed to carry a knife, even if you believe it is for your own protection. If you feel intimidated, worried that someone will harm you or you're being bullied, talk to your school principal, counsellor or year advisor.
- If you do not cooperate with the police, they can arrest and charge you.
- It is also illegal for anyone to sell you a knife if you are under 16 years old.

### Tough penalties apply

There are very tough sentences for assaults or threats that involve a knife; for example, if you are in a fight and wound someone with a knife.

If you commit this sort of crime with other young people, the sentences are even tougher. In some cases the gaol term can be for 14 to 25 years. Your parents can be charged if they know and allow you to carry a knife in public places or at school.

### Keeping schools safe

The police can search you in public places and at school if they suspect you possess a knife. They can confiscate any dangerous object they might find during the search.

If police tell you they are going to search you because they suspect you of having a knife at school, you must comply.

**There is no good reason for you to ever bring a knife to school.**

# EMAIL ADDRESS REQUEST

## Greetings Parents and Carers

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 legibly complete the following and return it to school with your child.

Lauretta Claus

Principal

February 2015

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## QUAKERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL - EMAIL ADDRESS REQUEST

CHILD NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT'S EMAIL ADDRESS:

[illegible][illegible]

PARENT/CARER SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_



**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)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## 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

Website: www.quakershil-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Principal: Mrs Laurretta Claus



## KILDARE ROAD MEDICAL CENTRE

### WE SPEAK YOUR LANGUAGE!

At KRMC® our Doctors speak a variety of languages, making your consultation experience more comfortable.

Languages covered include: Arabic, Bengali, Burmese, Cantonese, Fijian, Filipino, Hindi, Hokkien, Kannada, Mandarin, Punjabi, Swahili, Tamil, Urdu

To make an appointment  
book online at [kildaremedical.com.au](http://kildaremedical.com.au), download the Appointuit App  
or call Reception on 8822 3000

**OPEN EVERY DAY 8:00am – 8:00pm BULK-BILLING PRACTICE WALK-INS WELCOME**  
**36 Kildare Road, Blacktown (on the corner, next to Westpoint)**



## QUAKERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL

70 Lalor Road, Quakers Hill NSW 2763 PHONE: (02) 9837 1533 FAX: (02) 9837 1747  
E-MAIL: [quakershil-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:quakershil-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
WEBSITE: [www.quakershil-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.quakershil-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)  
PRINCIPAL: Ms Laurretta Claus



### Student Absentee Note

Name of student \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Date of absence(s) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Reason for absence

The reason for the absence must be shown below. (Please tick the appropriate box and give details.) Note: If you prefer, you may telephone the school to explain your child's absence.

☐

Sickness (please give details, eg flu)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐

Family reasons (please give details, eg attendance at a funeral)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐

Other reason (please give details, eg attendance at a religious ceremony)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent or carer \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent or carer \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_