

# QUAKERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL

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## 3 AUGUST 2018 CALENDAR DATES FOR TERM 3 2018

Friday 3 August Year 10 Enrolment  
packs due back to  
Mr Hutton

Monday 6—Friday 10 August  
EDUCATION WEEK

Tuesday 7 Aug. Year 8 Subject  
Selections

Wednesday 8 Aug. Support Unit Swim  
School

Thursday 9 Aug. Prosperitas Evening  
Stage 5/6 Collegiate  
Stem Cup Challenge  
PULSE Concert @ the  
Opera House

Tuesday 14 Aug. ICAS Mathematics

Wednesday 15 Aug. Support Unit Swim  
School

Wednesday 22 Aug. Support Unit Swim  
School

Thursday 23 Aug. Collegiate Science  
Challenge Stage 4

Wednesday 29 Aug. Support Unit Swim  
School

Monday 3 & Tuesday 4 September  
Blacktown Festival of  
Performing Arts

Wednesday 5 Sept. Support Unit Swim  
School

Wednesday 12 Sept. Support Unit Swim  
School

Thursday 13 Sept. RUOK Assembly

Monday 17 Sept. Showcase Matinee

Tuesday 18 Sept. Connecting with  
Community QCCP  
Showcase Night No. 1

Wednesday 19 Sept. Support Unit Swim  
School  
Showcase Night No. 2

Thursday 20 Sept. Multicultural Day

Thursday 27 Sept. Wyndham Graduation  
Stage 5 Scripture  
Seminar

Friday 28 Sept. Last day Term 3

## SPORTS CALENDAR

Thursday 2 & Friday 3 August—Sydney West Athletics



**SMART FOCUS FOR WEEKS 3 & 4: Placing Litter in the Bin**

# IMPORTANT NEWS FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is with great pleasure that I contribute my first Principal's message to the Quakers Hill High School newsletter. Since my arrival at the start of this term, I have been made to feel very welcome by the students, staff and parents, which has made getting to know a new school and community very enjoyable. Prior to this appointment, I worked as Deputy Principal at Asquith Boys High School, having served as a Head Teacher and Teacher in Northern and South West Sydney in the years before. This breadth of experience has given me a keen appreciation of the transformative role education has in the lives of children.

I wish to thank and acknowledge the work of the previous Principal, Ms Laretta Claus. Ms Claus had an indelible impact on the character of Quakers Hill High School and her legacy will be long lasting. I wish her all the very best in her new position. Likewise, I acknowledge the outstanding work of Mrs Maricic and Ms Mahon who led the school admirably whilst Ms Claus was on secondment, and ensured students continued to receive a world class education. Quakers Hill High School is thriving thanks to the knowledge, skills and passion of these great leaders.

Thank you to all students, staff and parents for what has been a smooth start to Term 3. I am impressed with the conduct and appearance of the students, and will continue to insist that all students attend every day in full school uniform and comply with the well-established rules and processes. This will ensure that we realise our SMART goals and maintain a happy and safe learning environment.

Thanks to all parents who attended Parent Teacher evening; I appreciated meeting a great many parents with their children. I would urge parents to support their children in implementing the advice given by staff and to make contact with us via the appropriate channels should further need arise. My sincere thanks to all staff for their work on the night.

On the Staff Development Day, held on Monday July 23<sup>rd</sup>, Quakers Hill High School staff attended the Nirimba Collegiate joint professional learning event at Wyndham College. Here staff participated in workshops and attended a presentation by Dr Andrew Martin on motivation, engagement and resilience in school. Occasions such as these provide a valuable opportunity for staff collaboration and expose us to cutting edge research into teaching and learning practices.

Our first assembly of the term was held on Thursday July 26<sup>th</sup> and honoured NAIDOC. Students were treated to a wonderful performance from our school choir, then entertained by Mr Phil Geia from P.I.E productions. Phil's presentation was entitled "Palm Island: The Good, The Bad and The Deadly" and made use of storytelling, music and dance. This experience was organised by Ms Lawson-Cohen, and I wish to thank and acknowledge her for this.

Ms Willmet and the SRC organised Jeans for Genes day on Wednesday August the 1<sup>st</sup>. This event is well established and aims to raise awareness and funds research into genetic conditions affecting children. This was embraced by our students due to the efforts of Ms Willmet and the SRC.

Andrew Skehan  
Principal

## **GOLD PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS**

Congratulations on the following student for receiving their Gold Principal's Award:

Year 8—Olivia Coram

**Mr Andrew Skehan**  
**Principal**



## SMART FOCUS

The SMART focus lesson for Week 2 is on moving safely in and around the school. As a school of approximately 1000 students it is very important that as we are moving around that we move in a safe and efficient manner. There is one minor change in our classroom entry script and this is around personal devices and the need to put them away before students enter the classroom. The script that teachers will use is replicated here for your information: *“When we enter a classroom we need to remove our earphones and place our personal devices in our school bag. We then unpack our bags and equipment quietly and quickly, place our bags on the ground and start the Do Now Activity.”*

It is important that all students follow the expectations around movement and ensure that they are within bounds at all times.

Just a reminder about personal electronic devices and their inappropriate use, if you have 3 negative referrals on this it is an after school detention, a 4<sup>th</sup> incident will result in a Formal Caution of Suspension and a 5<sup>th</sup> incident may lead to suspension.

### Safe Road behaviours

One of the reasons why we are committed to having a person doing duty at the crossing is to ensure that students are supervised and safe at the end of the school day. We have mentioned unsafe behaviours in the past around students running across roads without heeding the traffic lights or oncoming traffic. An ongoing focus area is making sure that all students cross the road at the pedestrian crossing outside the school. Most students behave impeccably, listen carefully and follow all instructions given but there are still some who will run across the road or cross outside of the crossing. Please support us in encouraging appropriate road behaviours by not calling your child across the road away from the crossing.

### Changes to School Uniform Policy and associated guidelines

The NSW Department of Education has revised the School Uniform Policy and associated guidelines following an extensive review and consultation process, including with the NSW Parents and Citizens Association. The revised School Uniform Policy requirements include that:

- all students have the opportunity to access the full range of school activities, including physical activities while wearing a school uniform
- girls must have the option to wear shorts and pants
- consideration is given to cost and how to assist families, including for schools to inform parents how they can access financial support to purchase school uniform items.

The revised School Uniform Policy and associated guidelines can be found at the link: [School Uniform Policy](#).

Where changes are required to a school's uniform, there must be formal consultation with students, teachers and other staff, parents or carers, and the school community (including the Parents and Citizens' Association). Parents and carers should be given up to 3 years to comply with any changes.

These changes afford us a good opportunity to remind parents that girls do have the option to wear shorts as well as pants at QHHS. If your child would prefer to wear shorts please contact the office so we can arrange a fitting or attend the uniform shop on a Monday from 8 – 9.30am. Furthermore, if purchasing school uniforms is going to impose financial difficulty the school has many clean, second-hand items available for students at no-cost.

### HSC Minimum Standards

Parents of Year 10 students who need to re-sit the Minimum Standards Tests in reading, writing and/or numeracy will soon be receiving a letter informing them about an upcoming opportunity to achieve the minimum standards.

Students have two opportunities a year in Years 10, 11 and 12, and five years from the year they start their HSC to meet the HSC minimum standard (even after Year 12). It's important to note the following:

- Students will still be able to sit their HSC exams and receive their HSC results regardless of whether they attain the HSC minimum standard. However, without the minimum standard, they will not receive the Certificate.
- This process does not affect students' ability in receiving an ATAR and applying to university or tertiary education.
- Students who do not meet the HSC minimum standard will still receive a Record of School Achievement (RoSA), which contains a student's record of academic achievement up until the date they leave school.

The tests will be undertaken online in the school hall during the next testing opportunity. Students who are not successful will have further opportunities to achieve the standard. If you are concerned about the test please contact the school.

### Year 8 Subject Selection

Year 8 Subject Selection is on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> August in the school hall. Doors open at 6 for a 6.30 start. All students have been informed of the event and this is a great opportunity for students and parents to look at the available subjects, ask questions and start discussions around choices. Upon arrival parents are asked to sign on and collect a package. Students who attend have first option in enrolment voting.

### Police talks

On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> August, Constable Megan Williams will be addressing Year 7 students about a range of issues related to their online safety and anti-bullying behaviours. She will be speaking to Year 10 about safe partying. She will be addressing the remainder of the students at a date later in the term.

### Education Week

Over the next 2 weeks we will be having a variety of events to celebrate Education Week. Events include Properitas and Future Focused Learning Showcase, Come as your favourite Character for Book Week and many other exciting activities. Keep an eye on Facebook to see what is happening and what is on offer.

### Semester 2 Fees

The semester 2 invoices will be mailed out in the coming weeks. Families that have fees owing from Semester 1 will see these included. We ask that you settle these accounts before the end of term and contact your Deputy Principal if you would like a payment plan.

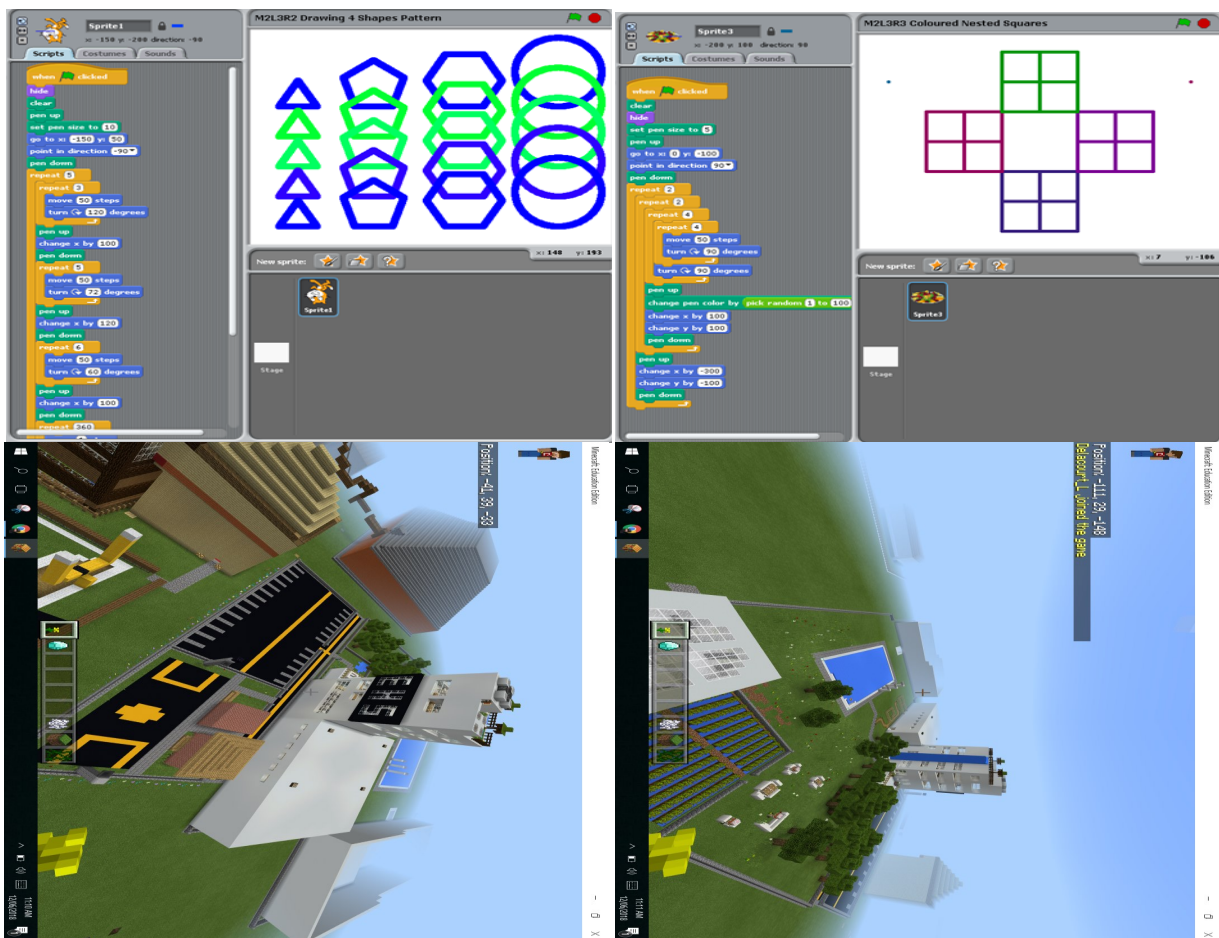


Congratulations to our Mrs Barber, one of our amazing Maths staff members who was recently awarded a Deans Medal for Academic Excellence, for coming in the top 2% of her cohort in her Master of Education (Secondary). What a fantastic achievement!

Congratulations also to Josh Tomlinson, Shane Hill and Georgina Willmet for successfully gaining their Teacher Accreditation. These outstanding young teachers are already demonstrating their commitment, passion and dedication to students and learning through the many roles that they are undertaking across the school.

### Term Two in Future Focused Learning

This term year 7 FFL students have completed two projects. The first was a whole class task, where students were given the responsibility of designing their own school from the ground up in Minecraft: Education Edition. All FFL classes worked collaboratively and collectively to achieve this, taking in design considerations as well as some of their own personal touches!





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**INVITES YOU TO A 4-WEEK TRIAL.**

**JOEYS – TUESDAY 6PM - 7PM AGES 5 – 8 YRS**

**CUBS – MONDAY 6.30 - 8PM AGES 8-11 YRS**

**SCOUTS – FRIDAY 7.30 - 9.30PM AGES 11-15 YRS**

***GOLLAN PARK - DOONSIDE RD, DOONSIDE***

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL [QUAKERSHILLDOON@SIDESCOUTS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:QUAKERSHILLDOON@SIDESCOUTS@GMAIL.COM)**

**GIRLS AND BOYS WELCOME ACTIVE KIDS REBATE APPROVED LEADERS NEEDED**