

# QUAKERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL

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## 22 FEBRUARY 2019 CALENDAR DATES FOR TERM 1 2019

Friday 22 Feb.	Peer Support Sessions	Information Night
Monday 25 Feb.	PASS students helping @ QHPS swimming carnival	Year 5/6 Information Evening 6-8pm
Tuesday 26 Feb.	School photo day	Wednesday 13 March Creative Writing Work shop 2.50-3.50pm
Wednesday 27 Feb.	Creative Writing work shop 2.50-3.50pm	Thursday 14 March Selective Schools Test 8-2.30pm
Thursday 28 Feb.	Year 7 ATSI Parents' morn tea 10.30-11.30, supper 6-7pm	"Pi" Day—SRC fundraising
Friday 1 March	Peer Support Sessions	Friday 15 March Peer Support Sessions
Tuesday 5 March	Catch up school photos	Monday 18 March Harmony Day
Thursday 7 March	Breast Cancer Aware ness Mufti Day	Year 7 Camp Infor mation Evening
	Primary Prosperitas 3.30-5pm	Tuesday 19 March Barista excursion
Friday 8 March	Contact issued	Wednesday 20 Mar. Creative Writing Work shop 2.50-3.50pm
	Peer Support Sessions	Thursday 21 March Primary Prosperitas Mentoring Session 8.30-10.05
Tuesday 12 March	Wyndham Subject	

## SPORTS CALENDAR

Monday 11 March—Sydney West Secondary Swimming Championships  
Friday 15 March—Zone Baseball all day  
Friday 29 March—QHHS Athletics Carnival



**SMART Focus for Weeks 5 & 6: Using appropriate & respectful language to others**

# IMPORTANT NEWS FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS

## **MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

### **ASSESSMENT TASKS**

Teachers are in the process of handing out the first of the assessment tasks for this year. Students have been reminded to listen very carefully to their instructions, make sure they keep all the information related to the tasks where it can be easily found, and most importantly, ask questions if they do not understand. We use assessment tasks to make a judgement on how well students understand the work covered in class and to see the rate at which their skills are developing. I would encourage all parents and carers to discuss upcoming assessment tasks with their children and assist with the organisation process as needed.

### **YEAR 7 MEET AND GREET EVENING**

It was wonderful to see a large number of Year 7 parents at our Meet and Greet Evening on Monday this week. Senior Constable John Bollard from Riverstone Police spoke at great length on practical strategies for parents to protect their children on line. This was viewed by those present as an extremely valuable experience. The evening also involved Head Teachers introducing their staff to parents as well as a brief set of reminders of key dates and processes for the year. Our staff were very well represented on the night and were able to speak with parents at the barbecue afterwards. The data captured from our live evaluation tool was extremely positive and will be useful for planning future events. Thanks to all staff for attending as well as those involved in managing the event, including Ms Mahon, Ms Ridge, Ms Taylor and Mr Kantek.

### **P&C**

On Monday night we also had the first P&C meeting for 2019. P&C meetings at Quakers Hill High School are friendly and productive occasions with a focus on activities in the school. I would encourage all parents to come along and join the conversation. P&C meetings are typically held on the second Monday of each month at 7pm.

### **DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS**

On Tuesday night we had our Duke of Edinburgh Award information evening. Mr More was able to run through the aspects of this program in great detail and answer the questions of those present. The Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme is a great opportunity for students to build their skills and confidence and engage in community service. My sincere thanks to Mr More for his co-ordination of the scheme at Quakers Hill High School and to Ms Lawson Cohen for her valuable input and experience.

### **OPAL CARDS**

All parents and carers should ensure that their child has a valid Opal Card if they use public transport to travel to and from school. We regularly remind students to “tap on” and “tap off” their service to ensure compliance with the scheme. Using the Opal Card correctly also provides our bus companies with reliable usage data which is utilised when considering any changes to routes. If your child requires a new Opal Card, please make the necessary arrangements on line via [www.opal.com.au](http://www.opal.com.au).

## **ARTIFICIAL NAILS**

It has come to our attention that some girls across the school are choosing to wear artificial nail extensions. This is not something that can be allowed in the school environment due to potential hazards, particularly if a student studies subjects in our TAS department or is involved in food preparation. We ask parents and carers to support us by insisting their children not wear these to school.

## **MERIT AWARDS**

Students—when you are cleaning out your room and your school bag and you find any Smarties or Merit Awards, hand them in as soon as you can to trade them up!

3 x Smarties—hand in to your roll call teacher

5 x Merits—hand in to the Head Teacher of the Year Group

3 x Bronze—hand in to your Year Adviser

3 x Silver—hand in to your Deputy Principal

3 x Gold—hand in to your Deputy Principal

**Andrew Skehan**

**Principal**

## **COLLEGIATE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

It has been a flurry of activity in each of the Nirimba Collegiate schools as they begin the year with hundreds of new student faces, and many new staff, each battling the hot days and their new roles and routines. Amongst it all there is a palpable energy for learning and teaching, and a strong sense of joy and pride in what we all do in working together.

The Year 10 into Year 11 Transition Process (that began last year when students were in Year 9) has taken a further step last week with **Subject Information Booklets** being issued to all students, and a presentation to each Year 10 group about the rules and process for choosing their Senior courses. In addition to this **Platinum Club Applications** have been made available to all students in Year 10 for the 2020 program. Platinum Club is a program targeting aspirational students who are seeking to maximise their outcomes and results in senior school.

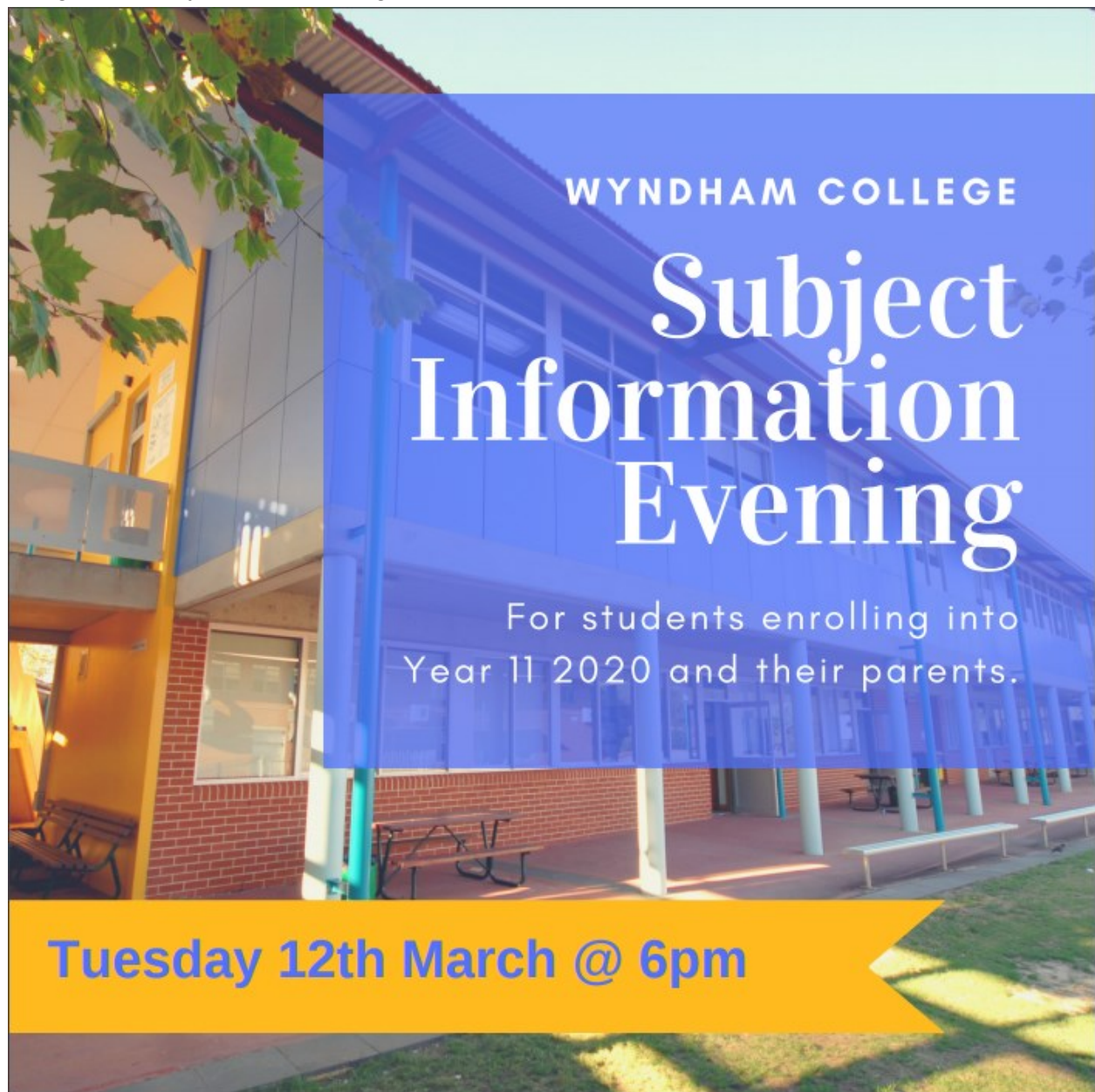
The next big event in this process is **SUBJECT INFORMATION NIGHT**, which will be held in the Wyndham College Hall on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March. Doors will open at 6pm for a 6.30pm start** to concise presentations about subject selection for the HSC and information about the ATAR. Each of the faculties at Wyndham College will have stalls set up around the periphery and staff would be pleased to give students and parents insight into what the courses involve. This is an important night for our Collegiate Year 10 Students (and prospective out of area applicants) to attend as **ENROLMENT PACKAGES** will be distributed on that night.

The fourteen new staff to the Collegiate were welcomed and began their cross-collegiate networking at an afternoon tea on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February. Karen Smith (Collegiate Chair, Semester 1) guided staff through the history of the Collegiate, its key operational aspects and the future planning for the years ahead.

There are many opportunities and events being planned for staff and students to network

across the Collegiate this year particularly in the programs that target areas of Student Leadership, STEM, Science and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. It looks like an exciting year ahead!

Beth O'Connor  
Collegiate Deputy Principal (acting)



## **SRC CONTACT ARTICLE**

### **Valentine's Day**

Love was well and truly in the air in Week 3! Our Valentine's Day rose sales were an enormous success, grossing over \$1000! A big thank you to our Fundraising Team for their enormous efforts. A special thank you to Brooklyn, Kayla, Jenna and Abby for their enthusiasm and dedication to ensuring the success of the day.

### **Term 1 Photo Booth**



Monday of Week 3 saw fun and frivolity take over the performance space with props-a-plenty for our makeshift photobooth to celebrate the start of the year. Thank you to our Student Engagement and Community Involvement teams for their co-ordination efforts.

### Charitable Efforts

For 2019, the SRC has chosen four charities to raise funds for. These charities are:

- The National Breast Cancer Foundation
- Red Nose Day Foundation
- Write Wreath & RU Ok charities
- Bear Cottage Children's Hospice and the White Ribbon Foundation

In Week 6 of Term 1, Thursday 7 March, we will host our first Mufti Day to raise funds for the National Breast Cancer Foundation. Students are encouraged to dress in appropriate mufti for a gold coin donation to help support this important charity. It is important that we dress appropriately to follow the S in SMART.

Students who chose to dress inappropriately will be issued with a lunch detention. **Inappropriate** dress includes:

- Midriff tops
- Short shorts
- Tank tops/strapless tops/spaghetti straps/tank tops
- Hoodies
- Clothing with offensive slogans or material
- Distressed or ripped jeans
- Open-toed footwear

Students are reminded that if they have electives that require Personal Protective Equipment or a specific uniform, they need to ensure they bring the required equipment. e.g. **enclosed leather shoes** for TAS subjects.





## School Opal Card

As part of our campaign against fare evasion, and our on-going commitment to provide the level of service needed to transport students to and from your school, Busways conducts regular checks of School Opal card.

**All students must be in possession of a valid Opal card or pay a fare.**

**Students in possession of an Opal card must also tap on/off with their card when boarding our buses.**

This is important, because the Opal data collected determines the level of service we are able to provide to your school. If students don't tap on and off, the services will appear underutilised and may be considered for cancellation based on low passenger numbers.

To apply for a School Opal card or to report a lost or stolen card, go online to [www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/](http://www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/)

Students who are ineligible for School Opal will need to purchase a Child/Youth Opal card or pay a fare to travel on our buses.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and support.

