

QUAKERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL

70 Lalor Road, Quakers Hill NSW 2763

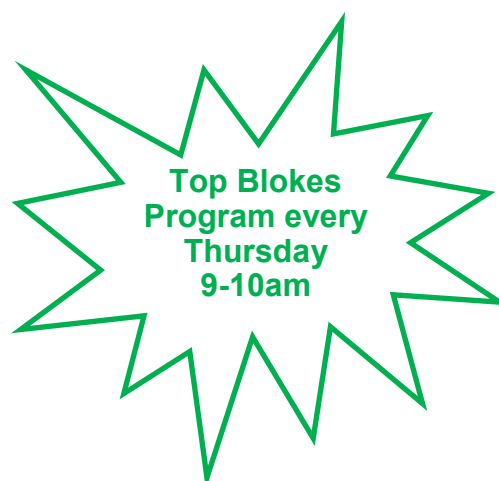
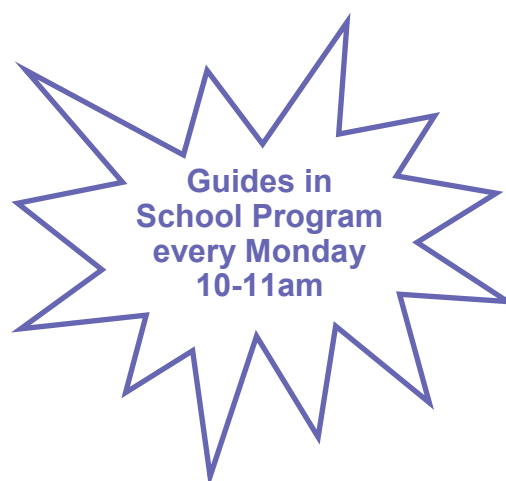
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31 JULY 2020 CALENDAR DATES FOR TERM 3 2020

3—7 August	Year 10 Subject Selection Interviews
3—7 August	Education Week
10 August	P&C Meeting @ 7pm
14, 28 August	Newsletter issued
17 –21 August	Wyndham College Enrolment Packages due to Careers Adviser
11 September	Newsletter issued
14 September	P&C Meeting @ 7pm
17 September	Blue Datta Year 10 Road Safety Program
25 September	Last day Term 3
TERM 4	
12 October	First day Term 4—all students return
15 October	Royal Botanical Gardens excursion



SMART Focus for Weeks 3 & 4: Properly organised bookwork

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I would like to welcome all students and staff back to school for Term 3 after what was hopefully a restful and enjoyable holiday break. Students have settled back into their school routine well and are actively engaged in learning for Semester 2.

STAFF UPDATE

I would like to welcome Mr Michael Brooks back to Quakers Hill High School. Mr Brooks resumes his position as Head Teacher Teaching and Learning after a three year period of secondment with the Department of Education. Mr Brooks teaches Computing, TAS and Future Focused Learning.

COVID 19 UPDATE

Last week I wrote to parents and caregivers to provide an update on departmental and school processes in place to keep students and staff safe during the Covid 19 pandemic. I will summarise some of the main points below:

- The spread of Covid 19 remains a critical issue in the community and schools and we follow current advice in relation to this;
- Students are regularly reminded to follow good hygiene practices such as regular hand washing, coughing and sneezing into their elbow, not sharing food or drinks and bringing their own water bottle to school;
- Students took part in a dedicated SMART lesson on Wednesday Week 1 which featured key reminders of the above messages and more;
- Parents and caregivers are reminded that students should be at school unless they have a medical certificate stating they can't attend due to an ongoing medical condition (with an expected timeframe) or they are currently unwell;
- The school records all tests undertaken via a dedicated Department of Education hotline;
- The Department has clear processes in place for the management of suspected or confirmed cases of Covid 19.

If parents or carers have any questions or concerns, please contact us at the school office.

SCHOOL PLANNING 2021-2024

This term we begin the process of constructing our new school plan for 2021-2024. This is always an exciting time as we come together as a school community to consider our future directions. The first stage of the school planning process is the completion of the situational analysis, which will be undertaken this term. This will involve the consideration of a range of data, both internal and external, as the foundation for our planning process, and using this to arrive at a common understanding of how our school is currently positioned and where we would like to be. Information regarding this and the planning process in general will feature in a range of school communications this semester. Any parents or caregivers interested in being part of this process should contact the school via phone or email.

RECALIBRATION UPDATE

Year 10 students and in many cases, their parent/caregiver, attended interviews in Weeks 1 and 2 of this term in relation to their Stage 6 subject selections for 2021. My thanks to Mr Hutton; our Collegiate DP, Ms Beth O'Connor and their team of careers advisers for managing this process. This process was mirrored at Riverstone and Seven Hills High Schools with the aim of providing students with personalised advice around their senior course options. We were very happy to see the large number of parents and caregivers who were able to attend with their child.

UNIFORM

I would like to remind all families that students are expected to wear full school uniform every day. It is only acceptable to be out of uniform if a note from a parent or caregiver is provided. This is a short term option only. A reminder that hoodies and tights are strictly prohibited at all times. If parents and caregivers are experiencing financial difficulty and cannot afford to replace a piece of uniform, they are reminded to contact their child's Deputy Principal or myself for a confidential discussion.

EDUCATION WEEK

As with so many things in 2020, we have had to cancel the usual activities we hold in Education Week. We hope to schedule some activities later in the year to showcase the magnificent work of our students and teachers.

Andrew Skehan
Principal

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

YEAR 8 SUBJECT SELECTION

Due to Covid-19 restrictions we have not been able to proceed with the usual subject selection process. In response to this, Mr Head took all Year 8 students through the subject selection process for 2020. Students received a brief overview of the subjects on offer, were taken through the process and had areas such as fees, hours and options explained to them. Since that time all Year 8 parents and students have been emailed further information including audio of Mr Head explaining the process. We encourage all parents to listen to this with their children to build a common understanding.

In Weeks 3 & 4, Head Teachers of the various faculty areas will be going into classes to provide more information about the different options on offer. At all points of the process students and parents are encouraged to ask questions and seek any clarification they require.

YEAR 10 END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

Last week all Year 10 students received a letter about the 'best case scenario' and 'worst case scenario' for the Year 10 End of Year Celebration. I will email out a copy of this for any parents who did not receive it. There are currently 22 students on the 'non-attendance list' and these students are there for a range of reasons including low attendance, poor behaviour, incomplete coursework and other actions in contravention of the SMART expectations.

SCHOOL FEES

New invoices for school fees are in the mail and should be received in Week 3. It is important to remember that course fees are mandatory as they pay for the materials that are used and consumed by the students in their electives. Fees can be paid in person using cash or card, online through the QHHS website or over the phone by card. If you are experiencing financial difficulty, we ask that you call the school and either make a payment plan or make a time to meet with your child's Deputy Principal.

Rebecca Mahon
Deputy Principal (Years 8 & 10)