

QUAKERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL

70 Lalor Road, Quakers Hill NSW 2763

Email address: quakershil-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Web address: www.quakershil-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Phone: 9837.1533
Fax: 9837.1747



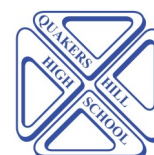
25 FEBRUARY 2022 CALENDAR DATES FOR TERM 1 2022

Friday 25 Feb.	Newsletter issued	Thurs. 10 March	Selective High School Test
	After School Farm Crew		Pathways to Dreaming Yarning Session
Monday 28 Feb.	Leadership Assembly		After School Textile and Design Extra curricular Club
Thursday 3 March	Pathways to Dreaming Yarning Session		
	After School Textile and Design Extra curricular Club	Friday 11 March	Newsletter issued
Friday 4 March	Back up Photo Day		After School Farm Crew
	Year 11 reports available on parent portal	Monday 14 March	P&C Meeting
	Nirimba Collegiate Senior Course Guide distributed to Year 10		Nirimba Collegiate Senior Course Guide distributed to Year 10
	After School Farm Crew	Wed. 16 March	Year 11 Assessment Evening

SPORTS CALENDAR

**UNIFORM SHOP OPEN EVERY
MONDAY 8.10AM—9.30AM AND
WEDNESDAYS 2.45PM—3.45PM**

Thursday 3 March	Open Knockout Boys Touch Football
Monday 14 March	Zone Swimming Carnival
Friday 18 March	Sydney West Swimming



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

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to our Week 5 newsletter. It has been a packed and exciting term already and we have barely started. In this newsletter the focus will be on updates, important reminders and some information about our directions and goals for Term 1 and beyond.

Yondr Updates

After a long lead in time, Yondr was fully rolled out on Tuesday 8 February. We have seen an immediate and highly gratifying improvement in student communication, student work completion and punctuality to class. The playground is full of noise and excitement as students are interacting, playing handball, and singing along with the music played on Tuesdays and Fridays over the quad speakers. The oval and grass areas are once again full of physically active students. Our focus in Yondr implementation was improved social, emotional, and physical wellbeing and the initial results strongly indicate this was the right decision.

We will be adding another unlocking station about halfway down the main pedestrian pavement to allow students to spread out as this is the main area of congestion.

I am going to include some student feedback about Yondr below and it may interest parents to see that despite their understandable fears and reservations most students have since (grudgingly) owned that the transition has been a positive one and less painful than they anticipated. Many students have expressed surprise that they have been able to cope without their phone and have reported feeling happier (currently this evidence is only anecdotal in nature). Parents, we still intend to have Dr Kristy Goodwin speak to our community about 'raising a screenager' <https://drkristygoodwin.com/> and we are looking forward to exploring even healthier digital habits.

There is a presentation on the 'why' of Yondr at the QHHS website and we encourage all parents to watch this. <https://quakershil-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/news/2022/1/yondr-introduction.html>

Student 1

As a Society and Culture class we have been brainstorming and comparing what our school is like before Yondr and now it is in place. Even though it has not been implemented for long, we were discussing the changes in our school and thought you might be interested in some of the things we noticed and discussed:

- More people have started playing sports at recess and lunch like handball and soccer handball
- The library has been busier and there are more people going there at break times compared to before - either as a place to go on the computers or sit and chat with their friends
- People are spending time together in bigger groups of people - people are used to

getting lots of messages from lots of different people so without that to keep getting information they try to widen their friend group.

More people are walking around at recess and lunch in groups.

Student 2

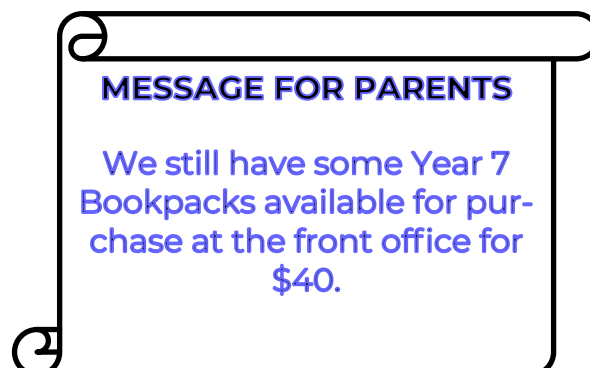
My class and I have noticed a drastic impact on students using the Yondr pouches. I have expressed my opinion with my peers, and we have all come to an agreement that there has been not only a major impact within the school but a highly drastic change and influence towards the new generation of Year 7 students. I would also like to be a representative of my class to elaborate my outlook on how the Yondr pouches are a great idea. We have discovered that not only are students more socially interactive than usual, but we have been able to bring to light the positivity of students within their friendship groups, classmates, and relationships with their teachers. Thus, the impact of the Yondr pouches so far has been beneficial and we appreciate the school bringing change to allow students to develop a healthy relationship with technology.

Bring your own device (BYOD)

After a gradual rollout that began in 2020, we are now a fully BYOD school. This means that students will need one to one access to a laptop for a portion of each day except for 'old school Wednesday' when Stage 6 students only will bring their devices.

Why BYOD?

Some parents have questioned our publication of a booklist in a BYOD school. Handwriting and brain to pen to paper is still a significant skill with some research indicating that freeform note taking enhances memory <https://nypost.com/2021/03/19/pen-and-paper-boosts-memory-more-than-smart-devices-study/> Thus, we are not substituting laptops for books and pens we are focusing on redefining traditional classroom skills and activities by using devices to undertake teaching and learning that is not possible with books alone. For example, instead of creating a new book jacket cover for a class novel the students might use a program such as [Animoto](#) to create a one-minute book trailer. Working with the school librarian they turn the URL of their book trailer into a QR code and place the QR code onto the book jacket for any student to scan and access their trailer. This allows for a real-world audience to experience work that would have been previously limited to the classroom teacher.





Equity

We are very excited by the real world, critical thinking and independent learning opportunities that have been opened in our classrooms by our transition to BYOD, but we are also mindful of leaving no student behind. In 2021, we had various strategies to help parents purchase a device for their child. Although students are always able to access a laptop for use in class where necessary we feel it is essential that every child has access at home to support research, build further fields of enquiry, complete homework, and assessment tasks and to access the software we have purchased to support independent learning. If your child does not have access to a device, you should have received a letter last week outlining an opportunity for a supported purchase. If you did not receive this, please contact the school.

As of 2022, a laptop is required equipment for learning. Please support your child in developing good habits around charging their laptop each night and bringing it to school each day.

All things Covid and a summary of the changes

- Cohorting is no longer required. Students will no longer be required to be kept in year groups or other cohorts. This means we can reintroduce cross-year group activities and events such as assemblies, we can all go to the library at the same time and we can re-start Karaoke! QHHS will continue to apply Covid smart measures for minimising risk when planning activities and events.
- Visitors are allowed back on school site regardless of their vaccination status to allow greater community engagement. Please note that vaccination remains mandatory for all staff, all school volunteers and all people attending the school in a paid capacity. We will continue to minimise risk when inviting visitors to come on site by applying various Covid safe measures such as ventilation, spacing where possible and so on.
- Masks are no longer mandatory in high schools for students or staff in secondary schools and will no longer be provided. Any student or staff

- member who still wishes to wear a mask will be supported in doing so.
- In line with community settings, staff who support our students in support units will be required to wear masks while working with students.
- Rapid antigen testing is moving to 'symptomatic testing' only. From Monday 28 February, staff and students will move to 'symptomatic testing' as required. We will provide a final allocation of 8 tests to support this for the remainder of term. A note has been emailed home for all parents to support student collection of the kits which will be given out on Monday/Tuesday. After this bundle, symptomatic students and staff should resume PCR testing or use their own home RAT kits which are now readily available and accessible in the community.

Parents, we have already planned our events for Term 1 to be in line with the previously published Covid safe measures. Events such as the Leadership Assembly on Monday 28 February and the Year 5/6 Information Evening in early March have long been planned as online events thus they will remain as online events. Some events that were previously held in person may also be held online to support increased attendance—these include the HPGE Information Evening.

The Quakers Hill High School P&C

On Monday 14 February we held our first P&C meeting for the year. Held online, we were excited to welcome some new members to the team. The QHHS P&C meets twice a term (the second Monday of every month) to learn more about what is happening at our great school, to provide a voice for the parent community and to help make our school an even better place. Membership does not require a great deal (\$2 to be a financial member means you get to vote) other than attendance at meetings where and when possible. Our AGM is coming up and we will be looking for new people to take up some office bearing roles. Once again these are not onerous and as the team is such a friendly one there is always someone to help, guide and support. No fundraising is required of anyone and at the end of each year we all get together for a dinner out and friendly catch up. So come along to the AGM or any other meeting and see how you can help to support your local school.

The 7-11, Vaping and Uniforms

- Uniform has thus far been excellent with few students making poor choices. Please remember that black shoes alone are not sufficient, they must be fully enclosed leather shoes in order provide protection for students' feet in practical classes. If your child has a valid reason for being out of uniform, please provide a note so that they need not complete a detention. There is assistance for the purchase of shoes where necessary. Please contact the school.
- I am sorry to say that vaping continues to be a problem for some young people within our school. Vaping is banned at Quakers Hill High School. Any student who is caught vaping at school will receive an after-school detention wherein they will complete activities on the dangers of vaping. Any student who sells a vape/vapes at school will be placed in timeout or issued a short suspension depending on the individual circumstances of the incident. We ask for parent support in this. If you are having trouble

stopping your child from engaging in this or other harmful behaviours, please reach out to us and we will work together to support improved decision making in our young people.

- We know that the 7-11 and its slushies are very alluring on a hot day and students *are* allowed to purchase such items *after* school. However, students are not allowed to hang around the 7-11 after making a purchase. Once the drink or item is purchased students must immediately leave the area; either going home or moving straight to the bus bay. Under no circumstances are students allowed in the car wash area nor are they allowed to hang around within the 7-11 area or out the front. Mr Nash has led a focus on students quickly and safely exiting the area and students have been compliant. We ask you to support us by collecting your child further down the road and not within the 7-11 area.



School Targets and the QHHS Strategic improvement Plan (SIP)

In 2021 we embarked on our new SIP which is firmly focussed on ensuring that every student, every teacher, and every leader in our school improves every year. Through this we can be certain that our school will continue to improve and serve our local community.

As we progress through the year, the SIP leaders will communicate our targets, explain their evidence base and share our evaluation of results. For this newsletter I would like to begin by sharing one key target: to communicate our processes, practices, and targets more effectively with our parent community so that we can engage in a truly student-centred and forward focused partnership. A key area in this is finding out what you would like to know more about.

We intend to run online presentations on Numeracy, Literacy, Attendance, Wellbeing, our Anti-Bullying Strategies, Explicit teaching practices, Assessment practices, Classroom Management systems and so on to build your understanding of what school looks like and feels like for your child.

In the days to come some of our parent Facebook pages and our QHHS official Facebook page will contain links to surveys around these opportunities.

We will seek to find the best platform, the best times, and the areas where you are most interested in finding out more.

Thank you and have a wonderful week.

Rebecca Mahon
Relieving Principal



Swimming Carnival 2022

By Niyati Narayan and Safa Chishty

This year's swimming carnival has been an honourable success for Quakers Hill High School. We would like to appreciate all the students and staff who came along and assisted during the event. The carnival was full of excitement and spirit, having our competitors in the pool trying their personal best. We would like to acknowledge our teachers and student helpers who took time out of their day to help us marshal, judge, and time-keep. We had the privilege to capture remarkable achievements with the help of Ms Lachevre and her fantastic multimedia skills. We have again thrived to succeed despite the current circumstances.

A special commendation for the following students:

- * Kaylin Bryson winning 3 out of 4 12-year girls' events.
- * Jarron Evangelista winning 3 out of 4 events and scoring 2nd place in boys 13s.
- * Mia Shore winning all the events in her age group.
- * Lorelei Strachan and Mia Shore completing the 100m butterfly event.
- * Joshua Hand winning all events in his age group and an impressive 26 second 50m freestyle.
- * Kaleb Sciberras beating his personal best in the 100m butterfly.
- * Kylie Ironside winning 3 out 4 under 15s girls' events.
- * Skyla Tynan winning all her girls 16s events.
- * Harrison Poulsen winning 3 out 4 events and scoring 2nd place in his 4th race.
- * Olivia Coram and Jake Valdivia being the only students competing in their age group.

It gave our school immense pride to have our students accomplish such praiseworthy things. We would like to give one last thanks to Mr Hill, Mr Hawkes, Mr Nash, Mr Brooks, Mr Hutton and Ms Lachevre in their efforts to make this year's swimming carnival a success.

Thank you.

order online

Online payment options include Visa, Mastercard and PayPal. Alternatively, you can choose to pay over 10 weeks using LatitudePay.

STEP 1

Go to www.advancedlife.com.au on your computer, phone or tablet.

STEP 2

Enter your school code:

XZR MHV ZLF

in the 'order and download' box.

This will take you to your school's secure online ordering site.



STEP 3

Click on 'Order Photos' and complete your details and procedures. During this process you can place orders for additional children at your school and sibling photos, if available



cash/envelope ordering

Your school prefers orders to be placed online. However, if you are unable to order online, please complete your order using the order envelope provided.

STEP 1

Complete a separate order envelope for each individual child's package/s ordered. If ordering for more than one child, payment should be enclosed in the envelope of the eldest child and this should be indicated on the envelope of the other child/children (the envelope that does not have cash enclosed).

STEP 2

Enclose exact cash payment in one envelope for the package/s you are ordering. Payment for more than one child should be in the eldest child's envelope and marked at the bottom of the envelope in the space provided.

STEP 3

Return your completed envelope/s, with correct cash payment, to our photographers on the day.

Please note: You must enclose exact correct payment, as change is not available. Credit card payments can only be made online and we no longer accept cheques. There is a separate envelope for sibling photo orders, should your school choose to offer sibling photos.

School photographs will be returned to your school 4-6 weeks after the day of photography

IMPORTANT - "not for publication" students

If you have instructed your school that your child's image is "not for publication" (sometimes called "do not publish" or "not for media release" instructions), the school will ensure that your child is not presented to our photographers on photo day and school photographs will not be available for purchase. If you wish to change your instruction, then you must notify your school, so they change their records and identify your child as able to be photographed for school photography purposes. All students presented to our photographers by your school on photo day will be photographed, their images will appear in school photography packages with their fellow students and these packages will be available to purchase by all families.

Contact us: www.advancedlife.com.au/contact

advancedlife
school photography & print specialists

BELL TIMES - 2022

TUES THURS FRI	ROLL	8.45	8.55	10'
	1	8.55	9.55	60'
	2	9.55	10.55	60'
	RECESS	10.55	11.25	30'
	3	11.25	12.25	60'
	4	12.25	1.25	60'
	LUNCH	1.25	1.55	30'
	5	1.55	2.55	60'

MONDAY	ROLL	8.45	9.05	20'
	1	9.05	10.05	60'
	2	10.05	11.05	60'
	RECESS	11.05	11.35	30'
	3	11.35	12.35	60'
	ASSEMBLY	12.35	1.20	45'
	LUNCH	1.20	1.50	30'
	5	1.50	2.50	60'

WEDNESDAY	ROLL	8.45	9.05	20'
	1	9.05	10.05	60'
	RECESS	10.05	10.35	30'
	2	10.35	11.30	55'
	3	11.30	12.25	55'
	LUNCH	12.25	12.55	30'
	4	12.55	1.50	55'
	5	1.50	2.45	55'

BELL SIGNALS SYSTEM

There are various bell signals which tell students and staff what to do.

SINGLE RING indicates the start of the day, end of lessons or breaks and the end of the day.

TWO RINGS indicate an assembly in the quadrangle has been called. All students and staff should assemble in the quad as quickly as possible.

THREE RINGS indicate that the oval is closed due to extreme heat or rain. Undercover walkways become in-bounds for that break.

WHOOP SOUND indicates that an evacuation is necessary. Students and staff must evacuate the buildings and assemble on the oval.

DOORBELL SOUND indicates a lockdown is required. All students and staff must remain in the buildings, close and lock all doors and wait for the all clear (which is two rings calling everyone to the