

# QUAKERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL

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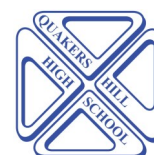
## 2 December 2022 CALENDAR DATES FOR TERM 4 2022 & TERM 1 2023

Friday 2 Dec.	Drama Club, Afternoon Farm Crew
Mon. 5 Dec.	Orientation Sessions for students accessing a course at a host campus
Tues. 6 Dec.	QCCP excursion to Katoomba (tentative), Code Club, After School Farm Crew, Debating Club, Future Forward Excursion Year 9
Thurs. 8 Dec.	QCCP Katoomba excursion (tentative), Service to School/Sports Assembly rehearsal Periods 3 & 4, Afternoon Textile and Design Club
Friday 9 Dec.	Service to School/Sports Assembly Periods 1-2, Rehearsal for Presentation Day Period 5, Drama Club, Farm Crew, Reports go live on parent portal
Monday 12 Dec.	Presentation Day Periods 1 & 2, Reports go live on parent portal, P&C Meeting 7pm
Tues. 13 Dec.	Year 11 Big Day Out excursion to Luna Park, Code Club, After School Farm Crew, Support Unit Blacktown Bowling excursion, Debating Club
Wed. 14 Dec.	Jamberoo Action Park excursion
Thurs. 15 Dec.	Year 12 HSC Breakfast 8am
Friday 16 Dec.	Bumper Newsletter issued, Drama Club, Last day of term/year for students
Mon. 19 Dec.	Staff Development Day No. 1
Tues. 20 Dec.	Staff Development Day No. 2

### JANUARY

Mon 23, Tues. 24 & Wed. 25 January—Uniform Shop open 8am-11am

**UNIFORM SHOP OPEN EVERY  
MONDAY 8.10AM—9.30AM**



**SMART Focus for Weeks 9 & 10: Treating shared school amenities respectfully**

# IMPORTANT NEWS FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS

## **MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

### **SAFETY AT SCHOOL**

All schools are required to hold evacuation and lockdown drills each year to test our procedures. Today we held an evacuation drill and I am pleased to say it ran smoothly. Students followed our SMART Code for the duration, walking calmly to the evacuation area and following staff instructions. These drills are conducted without warning so we can make them as realistic as possible. Advance warning may lead to students not taking it seriously. We understand that these drills may cause disruption to classes, and may inconvenience visitors and local residents. However, they are crucial to us maintaining a safe school site for all our students, staff and visitors.

### **TRAFFIC AND PARKING**

Continuing the theme of safety, I would like to remind everyone in our community that drop off and pick up times are particularly busy for school communities. Please make use of our drop off bay at the end of Lalor Road or the surrounding streets to drop off or pick up your child. The staff carparks are not to be used for this purpose unless by prior arrangement with the school. We all have a responsibility for ensuring that the start and end of the school day is as smooth and safe as possible and that we are all being courteous on the roads.

### **WEEKS 9 & 10**

With only two weeks of school before the holidays, teachers and students are still busily engaged with learning activities in class and sometimes off site. We encourage all students to attend school right up to the last day of term on Friday 16 December. Equally, I encourage Year 10 students to take up the opportunity of an exemption if they have found work leading up to Christmas. Ms Mahon's recent Contact articles and letter to parents have elaborated on this arrangement.

### **GREENING AUSTRALIA**

We are very happy to report that Mr Kantek's Green Team planted around 300 native trees at the school yesterday. This is an initiative of Greening Australia and aims to add to our already impressive array of native plants that are a remnant of Cumberland Plain Bushland. Besides creating a "carbon sink", the strategy also aims to decrease the "urban heat island effect" which has led to temperature rises over time due to decreased shade cover and too many hard surfaces like roads, concrete and tiled houses. A huge thank you to all the students and staff involved.

Mr Jason White  
Principal

Every year at roughly this time my father, long retired who has never been a teacher but spent his working career in the army, asks me the same question. This is always a variation of “Well you must be winding down now that it's the end of the year” and indeed when I first started teaching back in 1992 that did seem to be the case. Once we got into the last two weeks or so of school things seemed to get quieter and less seemed to be happening. For better or worse (depending on the day) this is no longer the contemporary comprehensive high school experience as we all continue to work, plan, prepare and teach, right up until the last day of school. With this in mind it is very important to ensure that your child is attending each day and if unable to attend due to family commitments, illness etc. please ensure you contact us with an explanation. Later in this newsletter, Mr Dacey, our relieving Head Teacher Administration will include some information about Attendance in Term 4 with a focus on some significant improvements that we have seen in Semester 2.

## **YEAR 7 ORIENTATION DAY AND EVENING**

On Monday evening we had our Year 7 Orientation Evening for the young people who will be in Year 7 at Quakers Hill High School in 2023. This was a busy and exciting evening and I spent most of the evening working in the uniform fitting area which provided a wonderful opportunity to meet some parents and new students. Having now been at Quakers Hill High School for nine years one of the nicest things about these events is touching base with the parents of previous students and hearing about their exploits whilst positively reflecting that Quakers Hill High School remains the local school of choice. It is always our goal to meet our communities needs and as an educator who has always lived and worked in South-Western or Western Sydney, I firmly believe that the local comprehensive high school is perhaps one of the last significant community connections that brings people together.

The excitement of Monday evening was followed up with a wonderful Year 7 Orientation Day organized with supreme skill and meticulous attention to detail by Ms. Melissa Lachevre. Ms Lachevre is a supremely talented transition coordinator who has built strongly supportive relationships with our partner primary schools over the past decade or more. There is no staff member anywhere who embodies the core DoE philosophy that every student must be known, valued, and cared for with more skill and dedication than Ms Lachevre. Thank you for your service Ms Lachevre.



Other recent events have included the orientation days for students who are moving to Wyndham Collège for Stage 6 and those students who are completing their Stage 6 studies at Quakers Hill High School. Later in this newsletter we have an account of those days from Jeyda and Grace.

Presentation Day and Service to School and Sports Assembly are just around the corner and Mrs Maricic, also meticulous in her attention to detail, is leading her team in pulling together this flagship event. Students will soon be receiving their invitations to these events and both events will be livestreamed due to the restrictions that we have adhered to with a limited audience.

Also, later in this newsletter, we will once again publish the learning programs that the students are currently undertaking and will be continuing to work on until the end of the year.

## **SMART FOCUS**

At the last couple of assemblies, Mrs Maricic and I spoke very clearly to the students about the need to maintain standards up until the end of the year. This includes uniform, pouching of phones and punctuality. Parents are reminded that it is unsafe to collect students at the 7-11 and both entities, the school and the 7-11 would prefer students were collected elsewhere.

## **QHHS YEAR 10 STAGE 6 TRANSITION DAY - A REFLECTION BY GRACE**

"We had lots of fun and learned a lot about how senior years work. We had Luke from Elevate Education teach us about studying and time management which I thought was very useful. We took part in teamwork activities and the great race Mr McKean was kind enough to set up for us even though I'm still mad about losing. It was an amazing time. I can't wait for Year 11 and the best part about the day was the free sausage sizzle at lunch."

## **WYNDHAM ORIENTATION DAY – A REFLECTION FROM JEYDA**

On Tuesday 22 November, Year 10 students from Quakers Hill High School had their Wyndham Orientation Day. We spent this day in our connect classes which gave us the opportunity to become familiar with people we would be working with. In our connect classes we completed activities throughout the day. Some of these activities included person bingo, which allowed us to learn more about one another and a scavenger hunt, where we got to visit different areas around the school. Overall, it was an exciting day, experiencing a new environment and preparing us for what to expect next year.



Students will be getting invitations to these events and that both will be livestreamed due to the restrictions that we have adhered to with a limited audience.

## **REMINDERS OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

Service to School & Sport Assembly - Friday 9 December

Presentation Day - Monday 12 December

Reports - Friday 9 December or Monday 12 December (these will be released on the Sentral Parent Portal)

Year 11 - Luna Park Tuesday 13 December

Jamberoo - Wednesday 14 December



Rebecca Mahon, Deputy Principal; Year 8 & 10

## **ATTENDANCE**

It is great to see that our overall attendance rates are still maintaining the level established at the beginning of the term. With 46.8% of students attending  $\geq 90\%$  of the time in Semester 2, and our overall average attendance rate climbing to 85.1%, and in addition to that, 131 students' current attendance at 100% for Term 4, it is fantastic to see so many students regularly attending school.

Letters are being sent out by Roll Call teachers to follow up unexplained absences. It is vital that the school is notified of absences as soon as possible. Justifiable reasons for being absent may include: being sick or having an infectious disease; having an unavoidable medical appointment; attending a recognised religious holiday, or exceptional or urgent family circumstances.

Friday, Week 9, we will be holding a BBQ for those with 100% attendance for Semester 2. Students will receive a note during roll call on Monday.

Mr Dacey  
Heat Teacher Administration (relieving)

## Post Examination Programs of Learning

Year 7 Post Examination Programs of Learning	
English	Students will be studying script writing. The GAT class will be studying Shakespeare's <i>Twelfth Night</i>
History	Year 7 are completing a social study of Ancient Egypt as a comparison to Ancient China.
Geography	The students are completing a liveability study wherein they will consider what makes a suburb more liveable. This leads into a site study for Year 8 in 2023.
Tech Mandatory	Students will continue to work on their technology projects. In each cycle students will be doing two theory lessons and three practical lessons. If there is any time remaining, they will complete extension practical work to continue to build applied, technical skills in that focus area.
Creative and Performing Arts	<p>Art- Students are continuing to work on their final artworks from the topic Portraiture. The remaining lessons of the year will be spent on practical tasks.</p> <p>Music- Students will be learning about the topic Australian Music. They will be exploring history of Australia through analysing the cultural elements in various musical compositions.</p>
PDHPE	<p>Students will be studying the 'Endless Summer' summer safety unit. This unit describes the risks and issues surrounding summer with a bigger focus on water safety that could possibly lead to swim school. This unit is important to students as it focuses on relevant and current risky situations and ways these can be handled safely by students.</p> <p>The practical unit 'The Mighty Ducks' focuses on student hand eye coordination and still development through stick and invasive games. This unit is important as it will build student confidence for future games focused units</p>
Science	In the topic <i>Blue Planet</i> , students will learn about the composition of the earth, discover how technology development assisted in information gained about the universe and how it influences our life on Earth. They will gain understanding of phenomenon on Earth such as the seasons, day and night, eclipses and tides.
Mathematics	Students in Year 7 will be completing the topics of Length and Probability.
Future Focused Learning	Year 7 students will work in teams to design and construct a popsicle stick bridge. The bridges will be tested to failure to determine the best design in each class. If time permits, students will have the opportunity to create their own Rube Goldberg machines from found items. Alternatively, their teacher may choose to challenge the class through a selection of individual or small-group tasks designed to develop teamwork and creative/critical thinking.

Year 8 Post Examination Programs of Learning	
English	Students will be completing a unit called <i>Man versus Machine</i> . The core questions of focus : Are we better people because of the impact of technology or will technological advancements result in the loss of our humanity?
History	Year 8 are focusing on First Contact – with most classes exploring the impact of first contact between European colonisers and various First Nations peoples.
Geography	Students will be exploring personal and commercial connections to places with a focus on the key question of ‘what drives connections to places.’
Tech Mandatory	Students will continue to work on their technology projects. In each cycle students will be doing two theory lessons and three practical lessons. If there is any time remaining they will complete extension practical work to continue to build applied technical skills in that focus area.
Creative and Performing Arts	<p>Art- Students are continuing to work on their final artworks from the topic Landscape. The remaining lessons of the year will be spent on practical tasks focusing on lino printing.</p> <p>Music- Students will be learning about the topic Music of a Culture. They will be seeking to understand the unique musical perspectives of a variety of Asian focused cultures through composition and performance activities.</p>
PDHPE	Students will be studying the unit ‘Imagine’, an introduction into mental health with a wider view on its effects on overall wellbeing. This unit is important as it is the starting point into using mental health metalanguage and the beginning of answering extended responses in this area. The practical unit ‘The Sandlot’ is focused on small sided games and movement. The use of small sided games in the practical setting is important as it focuses on students’ movement through space and ability to interact with other students in a small game setting.
Science	<i>Dynamic Earth</i> - students will continue to work on the syllabus and finish this unit of work that includes weathering and erosion, rock cycle and types of rocks
Mathematics	Students in Year 8 will be completing the topics of Properties of Geometrical Figures and Probability.

Year 9 Post Examination Programs of Learning	
English	The close study of Science fiction as a genre. The core text will be a film chosen by each teacher based on student interest and level.
History	Year 9 will be continuing their close study of WWI. This is a core unit of study which will continue into Year 10.

Geography	Year 9 are completing an issues focused unit centred around urbanisation. This will include a review of the impacts of migration to prepare for the Migration unit in 2023.
Agriculture	Students will continue with their sheep in Australia/sheep management focus. They will continue to complete farm tasks and tidy up the kitchen garden.
Food Tech Year 9	Students will continue their work on nutrition, under and over nutrition and food trends – with a small amount of food equity focus. For both yr 9 and yr 10 we are completing extra practical work weeks 6,7 8 and 9.
Industrial Technology This includes timber, metal, electronics and engineering Stage 5	Students in both years 9 and 10 have a significant amount of work still to be completed with their projects and the focus will be on this. Small projects may also be introduced if we can ascertain they are able to be completed in the time frame.
IST Stage 5	Students will continue to work on their design projects
Stage 5 Child Studies Year 9	Students will be studying “The Early Years” with a focus on preschool education in Australia. Students will be evaluating contemporary technology for children including apps, media etc. There is a section on film studies, but this is in relation to children, parenting etc and is fundamental to the topic being studied.
Science	Some classes are finishing the topic on Nature’s Fury and the natural disasters that take place across the globe. Other classes will begin with <i>Star Wars</i> – this unit looks at the Universe and how our knowledge of the cosmos has changed with time.
Mathematics	Year 9 5.1 students will be completing the topics of Area and Surface Area and Probability. Year 9 5.2 students will be completing the topics of Right-angled Trigonometry and Probability. Year 9 5.3 students will be completing the topics of Rates and Ratios and Probability. Accelerated students will be wrapping up the entire stage 5.3 course in preparation to begin the Year 11 Mathematics Advanced course in 2023.
PDHPE plus electives	For theory and practical students will be studying the unit ‘Bring It On’. This unit will focus on fitness and movement choices. This unit is important as it will describe to the students that not all movement is the same and not all sports involve competition. This unit can help students get comfortable with different sports and fitness choices hopefully leading into increased participation in the future. The focus being that their movement is their choice and responsibility.  The PASS elective will have a major event focus with a flavour of the upcoming football world cup. Students will investigate the event not just the playing of the sport, things such as vendor costs, stadiums, draws, amount of teams, financial cost to the

	hosts. This can include them setting up and running their own 'Word Cup'. This unit is important as it is associating the relevant of a real-world event with our unit to make it more engaging for the students. They will work on their literacy and numeracy along with organisational skills to set up their own world cup events. This will cover the practical and theory setting.
Creative and Performing Arts electives	<p>Art- Students are continuing to work on their final artworks from the topic Mythology. The remaining lessons of the year will be spent on practical tasks focusing on their sculpture. During the drying process of sculpture students will be learning photoshop.</p> <p>Visual Design- Students will be continuing to work on their Australian Textile Designs on Canvas for use as placemats focusing on the topic Flora and Fauna of Australia.</p> <p>Music- Students will be learning about the topic Australian Music. They will be exploring the history of Australia through analysing the cultural elements in various musical compositions.</p>

Year 10 Post Examination Programs of Learning	
History	Students will be engaging in a close study of Rights and Freedoms within the context of the chosen decade. Students work from a local level to national to global.
Geography	Students are looking at Human Rights from the perspective of human wellbeing. The History and Geography projects are interrelated but will culminate in the production of two separate products for the two courses
English	A travel unit with an independent project centred on the preparation of an itinerary, travel information and images for a holiday destination. Students can choose their own destination, modes of travel etc based on interest
Food Tech Year 9	Students will continue their work on nutrition, under and over nutrition and food trends – with a small amount of food equity focus. With yr. 10 students we are also offering café simulation – which will include both food and beverage. For both yr. 9 and yr. 10 we are including extra practical work weeks 6,7 8 and 9.
Industrial Technology This includes timber, metal, electronics and engineering Stage 5	Students in both years 9 and 10 have a significant amount of work still to be completed with their projects and the focus will be on this. Small projects may also be introduced if we can ascertain they are able to be completed in the time frame.
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Science plus electives	<p>Forensic Science- looking at how new technology supports criminal investigations in identifying facts and/or people responsible for such acts.</p> <p>Psychology: Forensic Psychology- what makes someone turn to crime- using a few real-life examples, we will look at profiling the criminal and how their minds work</p>
PDHPE plus electives	<p>For theory students will be studying the unit 'A Beautiful Mind'. This unit is a current in depth look at the mental health of young people. This unit is important to students as it the culmination of all the wellbeing units completed in prior years. Students learn about the wellbeing of an individual and how the different areas can all interact with each other. They focus on the importance of formal and informal support services available to young people and the barriers young people face to get these supports. The students take a wider holistic view on wellbeing through extended response writing trying to address all aspects of wellbeing of the individual and group.</p> <p>The practical unit 'iTony' will focus on modified movements and games. This unit will modify games such as European Handball, Oztag and Football with changing rules and smaller teams. These modifications care important as they make the students focus on specific skills within the game that otherwise, in bigger games, get overlooked.</p> <p>The PASS elective will have a major event focus with a flavour of the upcoming football world cup. Students will investigate the event not just the playing of the sport, things such as vendor costs, stadiums, draws, amount of teams, financial cost to the hosts. This can include them setting up and running their own 'Word Cup'. This unit is important as it is associating the relevant of a real-world event with our unit to make it more engaging for the students. They will work on their literacy and numeracy along with organisational skills to set up their own World Cup.</p>
Creative and Performing Arts electives	<p>Art- Students are continuing to work on their final artworks from the topic Social Issues. The remaining lessons of the year will be spent on practical tasks.</p> <p>Music- Students will be learning about the topic Music of a Culture. They will be seeking to understand the unique musical perspectives of a variety of Asian focused cultures through composition and performance activities.</p>

Mathematics	All Year 10 students will be participating in the Project Based Learning Activity 'Mathematics and Driving'. The principal focus of this topic is the calculation of motor vehicle purchase and insurance costs, and the interpretation of related tables and graphs.
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