

# QUAKERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL

70 Lalor Road, Quakers Hill NSW 2763

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**19 JUNE 2023**

## CALENDAR DATES FOR TERMS 2 & 3 2023

Tues. 20 June	Debating Club, Year 6 Diagnostic Testing Session 1, Support Unit Work Experience Group 3, QCCP Brewongle Excursion
Wed. 21 June	Groups 1 & 2 Work Experience Support Unit, Farm Crew
Thurs. 22 June	Top Boys Program, , Textile and Design Club, Year 12 HSC Performance night 5.30-7.30pm, Years 11 & 12 Legal Studies Law Day Out excursions, ROSE breakfast for Years 7, 8 & 9
Friday 23 June	Chess competition, Farm Crew, ROSE breakfast for Years 10, 11 & 12
Mon 26—Tues 27 June	Sydney West Athletics Carnival
Mon. 26 June	Year 10 Subject Expo
Tues. 27 June	Debating Club, Farm Crew, SRC Leadership Day incursion
Thurs. 29 June	Top Boys Program, Primary Prosperitas halfway presentation meeting 4-5.30pm, Year 7-10 reports on parent portal, Year 9 cohort excursion to Luna Park
Friday 30 June	Chess Competition, Bumper Contact, Farm Crew, Last day Term 2

### TERM 3

Monday 17 July	Staff Development Day
Tuesday 18 July	All students return for Term 3, Debating Club
Friday 21 July	Year 10 vaccinations
Tuesday 25 July	Debating Club
Wed. 26 July	Support Unit Swim School
Thurs. 27 July	Year 7-10 Parent Teacher Evening 3.30pm-6.30pm
Monday 31 July	Newsletter issued
Tuesday 1 August	Debating Club, Year 8 Subject Selection Information Evening

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



# IMPORTANT NEWS FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### **Academic Success in Stage 6**

As I noted last year, our 2022 HSC results were truly impressive. Our teachers were recognised by the department of education for their very high level of engagement with HSC professional learning, and our students came through with great results. On the two measures of top 2 and top 3 HSC performance bands that all schools are required to report on annually, students from Quakers Hill High School outperformed all other local public schools, including St Marys Senior High School. This was a momentous achievement in the first year of HSC at Quakers Hill, and testament to the hard work of students and teachers – and of course the patience and support of parents!

We are committed to continuing this high achievement for our HSC students, through quality teaching, academic support, student wellbeing programs, and ensuring we cater for student curriculum needs by supporting smaller class sizes in the senior years.

The current Year 10 subject selection process for students entering Year 11 in 2024. We are close to finalising our offerings based on students' subject surveys last week. I'm confident that we will be able to offer "something for everyone" for our students to continue their education at our school in Years 11 & 12.

### **Senior Area**

In other exciting news for our senior students, the newly landscaped Stage 1 of the senior area is getting closer to being finished. We have ordered seating and large shade umbrellas to ensure the area is comfortable for our Year 11 and 12 students to relax and study. These should be installed next term. Stage 2 will see further landscaping and levelling around the outside later this year.



## **How was school today?**

When we ask our young people about school, we often have an answer that is less than enlightening. Words like “good”, “boring” and “okay” come to mind. One of the ways to engage your child in a more meaningful conversations beyond those short answers is to ask more specific questions about subjects or activities and ensure we are giving them our full attention. I have noticed over the yearsthat teenagers often give the impression of not caring or not wanting to talk, but this is rarely the case. Finding the time and space to get them talking may provide some insights into the richness of their school day and some highlights you may not have previously heard. I like to ask follow up questions such as a simple “why?” or “what did you like about that?”. Asking more targeted questions based on their school report is an opportunity later this term. Besides reports, the end of term Bumper Contact is an excellent way to see what students are learning about and news for the different year groups.

## **Co-curricular and Extra-curricular opportunities**

Besides studying the “curriculum” – English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, PDHPE, TAS and Creative Arts – we have a huge range of other learning opportunities and activities at the school. Many of our students opt into these, and I've noticed that these students tend to be much more connected and contented with their school experience. For some students, school can at times feel like a burden or something they don't value as much as we would hope. My suggestion for students feeling that way is to think about how they can become involved in the wider life of the school and embrace the opportunities we provide. Students and parents can reach out to their roll call teacher or student adviser for advice, and our social media is a great place to see these opportunities showcased. The end of term Bumper Contact is also a great way to learn about the rich array of learning and activities that our school offers.



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PRINCIPAL: Mr Jason White



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## UNIFORM REMINDER LETTER

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Winter is upon us, and although it has been a mild winter thus far there are certainly mornings where it is quite cold and students need to be reminded of uniform requirements.

Hoodies and tracksuit pants, irrespective of colour, are not permitted as school uniform. Any time a student wears a hoodie they will be asked to remove it and replace it with either a jumper or a jacket from the wellbeing store. Students are allowed to wear long sleeved white undershirts underneath the white polo shirts, and they can wear scarves and woollen beanies also for additional warmth - though these do need to be in school colours.

Boys are encouraged to wear the school pants, or they are allowed to purchase navy blue dress pants. Girls are encouraged to wear the school pants in cold weather, or they may choose to wear navy blue tights under their skirt. A reminder that shoes must be black leather shoes - this is a state-wide requirement for work, health, and safety (WHS) reasons.

We believe that our uniform is an attractive one and our students look very smart and professional when wearing it; moreover, we work closely with the P&C to ensure uniform is a priority for our school community. Whenever we go on excursions or providers attend our school, people always comment on how good our students look in their uniform.

We realise that uniform comes at a cost, and we are always ready to work with parents to provide clean, second-hand uniform where available or assist in the purchase of new uniform. Remember that the uniform shop is open on Monday mornings from 8.10 am.

Please support us and your child by ensuring your child is wearing uniform to school each day. If you have any questions or concerns about this communication, you are welcome to email me at [rebecca.mahon@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:rebecca.mahon@det.nsw.edu.au).

Kind regards,  
Rebecca Mahon  
Deputy Principal  
16.6.23

# STUDY SKILLS HANDBOOK NEWSLETTER ITEM FOR JUNE

## HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE STUDENTS

Effective students are those who have learnt to study smarter rather than harder. Below is a list of the top habits that effective students do.

1. **MAKE THE MOST OF CLASSTIME:** You are going to be sitting in class anyway, so you may as well make the most of the experience! Time wasted in class is lost learning opportunities or time you need to make up at home. To make the most of classtime stay on task and be as involved as you can in the lesson.
2. **ASK QUESTIONS OFTEN:** Students who are effective will ask questions when they don't understand something, they don't wait until 3 weeks into the topic then say 'I don't understand any of this!'. So if you aren't sure about something, then ask your teacher.
3. **COMPLETE ALL HOMEWORK:** Your teachers are giving you the homework for a reason, even if you are unsure what the reason might be! It is all part of building your learning in the subject. Focus on putting 100% effort into completing all homework to the best of your ability.
4. **DO INDEPENDENT LEARNING:** Students who do well academically do more than just the set homework. Rather than cramming just before an exam, they learn as they go. This means the nights they don't have much homework they step up and take responsibility for their learning and ask themselves 'what else could I be doing to help me understand and learn my subjects?'. Often this entails reviewing previous work that was difficult or preparing study notes in advance.
5. **ARE FOCUSED WHEN WORKING:** Students who are effective usually work in blocks of time at home, anywhere from 20 minutes to an hour, but in that time they focus on the task at hand. This means they have removed all distractions and commit that when they are working on schoolwork, they are just working on schoolwork – no personal activities at the same time.
6. **WORK SMART FOR ASSESSMENTS:** Effective students spend time when they are given an assessment ensuring they understand the requirements and the marking criteria. They work to the guidelines of the assessment and approach the task systematically, making a plan and setting targets for when they want to complete each step.
7. **NEVER CONFUSE 'READING' WITH 'STUDYING':** Effective learners know how to study properly for a test. They know that just reading your notes over and over is not an effective way to learn. Instead, they read a section then test themselves on it, seeing what they can say out loud or write down. They also do lots of revision questions or past exam papers so they can practise the skills of the subject and identify areas of weakness.

You can learn more about being more effective  
at [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au) by logging in with these details:

**Username:** quakershillhs

**Password:** 45success