“The children now love luxury. They have bad manners, contempt for authority; they show disrespect for elders and love chatter in place of exercise.”
— Socrates

Even 1700 years ago children and young people were seen to be the scourge of our communities and the beginning of the end for our civilised society. Today the media portrays young people as obese internet bullies who take no care for their society. Young people are the unruly, disrespectful, foul mouthed, selfish, self-serving sector of our society if you believe every story that appears within the media.

Our experience this week alone proves the above ideas wrong. On a number of different occasions and in different settings students of Quirindi High School have demonstrated strong values, participated actively and productively within their community and continued to attain deep knowledge of the world they are residents of.

Seventeen percent of our student body have performed at CAPERS this week. Students from across all year groups have performed in the mass dance troupe and the massed choir and band. The students have undertaken months of preparation and practise to ensure they know the performance pieces and that they perform to their optimal level. It is wonderful to see students committing their own time outside of school to such a productive and entertaining activity. Thanks also to Mrs Jess Hinsley for her organisation and to Ms Leanne Cooper for giving time to supervise and support the students.

Monday evening I was invited to attend the Rotary Cluster Public Speaking Final where Hannah Davis and Wade Clarke represented themselves, their families and our school in an outstanding manner. Both these students spoke on topics that reflected the values of the Rotarians and their own personal values and beliefs for the continuation of a just and responsible society. The topics of the speeches were ‘Domestic Violence’ and ‘Nuclear Fission’, two vastly different areas but both areas that demonstrate a strong moral compass in both of these students, caring for people and our environment. Both students spoke extremely well and presented well researched and thoughtful speeches; Hannah Davis received first place while Wade Clarke received highly commended. Hannah will now move onto the next round in the competition which will take place next year. Thank you to Mr Chris Owen for his efforts and support of the two competitors.

I have also received further information regarding the delivery of uniform for 2016. The suppliers of the uniform have indicated that the new shirts, skirts and girls pants will be at the school by early March 2016. Due to the delay in delivery time the pre discussed alternatives for the uniform in previous newsletters will apply until this time.

As always should you have any questions or queries regarding your son or daughters education at Quirindi high school please call us to make a time to come in and discuss your concerns.

Sally Chad
Relieving Principal
The Boy at the Top of the Mountain

By John Boyne – author of The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

When Pierrot becomes an orphan, he must leave his home in Paris for a new life with his Aunt Beatrix, a servant in a wealthy household at the top of the German mountains. But this is no ordinary time, for it is 1935 and the Second World War is fast approaching; and this is no ordinary house, for this is the Berghof, the home of Adolf Hitler.

Quickly, Pierrot is taken under Hitler's wing, and is thrown into an increasingly dangerous new world: a world of terror, secrets and betrayal, from which he may never be able to escape.

Revision Strategy to Try This Week

DOODLE IT

Especially useful for:

- Revising whole topics

What to do:

a) Collect together all your notes on one topic (this example here is a GCSE topic: recruitment for World War I)

b) Now create a picture which links all of this information together.

c) Make sure all of the bits of your picture fit together.

d) Ideally, use colour, different font shapes and sizes to increase the visually memorable elements.

Why does it work?

- Because it uses every aspect of your memory – words, pictures, actively doing something and, because you have created it personally, it has emotional significance. All of these things help move information from the working memory to the long-term memory.

- Because it is really quick to revise! Although it takes time to do, you can scan over it to remind yourself really, really quickly.

Need Help?

Make sure you ask us for help.
Happy reading and studying!

Mrs Owen – Teacher Librarian & Mrs Sweep – SAS Library
**Whooping cough information for schools**

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children.

Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night. Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.

If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.

Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website for information for childcare and schools about whooping cough.

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**End of Year Excursions are fast approaching**

**REMEMBER**

**Outstanding Elective Fees**

Students will be denied the privilege of attending non-compulsory excursions as per the Quirindi High School policy if there has been no effort in the payment of elective fees over the year. Any fees owing from the previous year will have to be paid in full.

We would be grateful if you could settle your account as soon as possible.

A student assistance scheme is available through a government funded subsidy whereby, anyone who is having financial difficulty is encouraged to contact the Principal requesting assistance with payment for excursions or elective fees.

This will be dealt with in the strictest of confidence.
Quirindi Junior Basketball is holding a Junior Development Day for the above age groups this Sunday the 8th November at the Quirindi High School Hall. Both current and new players are welcome. Please bring plenty of water and a size six basketball if you have one.

**2016 Representative teams**
Try-outs for our 2016 Northern Junior League teams will also commence in the coming weeks so please keep an eye on our website for dates and times. Quirindi Basketball is hoping to enter eight teams in 2016 with a men’s and women’s teams in each age group.

- Under 18’s - Players Born 1999 - 2000
- Under 16’s - Players Born 2001 – 2002
- Under 14’s – Players Born 2003 – 2004

**2016 Term 1-2 Tamworth Schools Competition**
After a break during the Term 3-4 competition this year Quirindi Basketball are looking at entering 8 teams into the Wednesday night Schools competition for the Term 1-2 in 2016. Limited spaces will be available with priority given to those players who are selected for our NJL squads and who are or will be attending Quirindi High School.

**Referee Development**
Quirindi Basketball currently has a major shortage of referees for our junior programs. In 2016 each Representative Team and School Team will require two players to put their hand up to learn how to referee. Each competition entered two new players will be required to do the same to assist building our refereeing numbers. If we are unable to supply referees we risk expulsion from future tournaments so it’s in everyone’s interest to get involved.
## Dates to put on your Calendar

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### School Office Hours

**Office hours are 8.30am to 3.30pm**

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Office hours are typically 8.30am to 3.30pm, but it's always a good idea to check with the specific office for any changes or additional hours. This is to ensure you have the most accurate information for your needs.
Friends of Children with Special Needs Quirindi Group
ABN 84 344 320 073

Are commencing a major raffle

Hamilton Island Holiday Raffle
We hope many parents and families support this fundraiser.
All monies raised will be assisting Friends of Children With Special Needs Group and supporting children in our community.

Tickets are $2 each

1st prize is for five (5) nights at the Reef View Hotel, Hamilton Island for 2 adults and 2 children (0-12 Years) in a Garden View Room including a $1,000 Virgin Australia Voucher. Also included is a full buffet breakfast daily, return airport/marina transfers, use of paddle skis, windsurfers, catamarans, snorkelling equipment, use of Island shuttle, use of gym, spa, sauna and tennis court hire. Kids eat free at participating restaurants.
Valued at $2,730

2nd Prize 2GB IPod Shuffle. Valued at $60
Raffle drawn 5.3.16 at the Quirindi Music Festival

Tickets available from Quantum X George Street Quirindi
Contact Jodie Sevil 0429 463 103
Maryellen Scanlon 0427 456 400