Welcome back to the start of Term 2. We hope you all had a restful and refreshing break over the past two weeks and are ready for the busyness of the term to come.

This week has been a full one for staff and students of Quirindi High School. On Monday we hosted teaching staff from the Liverpool Community of Schools, for a staff development day focussing on 21st Century Learners. The day consisted of workshops focussing on Metacognition, Creativity, Vocabulary and Problem Solving. Staff presenters from the High School worked alongside members from surrounding Primary Schools to research the themes of the day in Term 1 and collaboratively developed engaging and relevant workshops to increase the understanding of their colleagues. The teachers became the students on Monday, furthering their capacity to ensure the continued delivery of teaching strategies which allow for strong academic growth for all of our students. It was a great opportunity to strengthen ties between the High School and Primary Schools throughout the area and an excellent way to ensure a continuum of learning for our students from Kindergarten to Year 12.

We hosted our first school social for the year on Thursday evening. Students who attended had great fun and welcomed Year 7 completely into the community of our student body. It is great to be able to provide these fun social events for our students as a reward for their positive behaviour during the school day. Thank you to all teaching staff who volunteered to supervise the event, without their selfless contribution of time these great events could not be held.

Mr Owen organised and ran a solemn and respectful formal assembly today to acknowledge ANZAC Day. It was wonderful to see a number of community members join us in our remembrance of the men and women who have given so much for their country and our wellbeing over the past 100 Years. Students acknowledged the sacrifice made by people past and present to ensure that we are able to enjoy the freedoms of our community as we know it today. Many students have borrowed school blazers to wear so that they can march in their own local community ceremonies. It is great to know our students are proud of their community and wish to make positive contributions to civic activities.

This term sees students move into winter uniforms. Girl’s winter skirts can be purchased from the school canteen and school jackets can also be purchased this way. Parents are reminded that we also have a school uniform pool from which they can purchase preloved uniforms.

I draw your attention to the school calendar at the back of the newsletter. This calendar is included in all newsletters and provides important dates that may affect your child at school. Please refer to this calendar for beginning and ending dates for the term. This calendar will have a number of forward weeks included so that you can stay up to date with future events at school.

As always if you have any queries or concerns regarding your child’s education at Quirindi High School please contact us to make an appointment to come in and see us.

Sally Chad
Deputy Principal
During Week 8, Term 1, we had four students from Quirindi High School attend the Northwest Dance Camp at Lake Keepit. Gabby Rawson, Chelsea Medway, Sophie Robertson and Courtney Burgess participated in three dance classes a day with a variety of dance instructors. The five day camp concluded with a concert on the Friday, showcasing the skills the dancers had learned during the week.
The Northwest Dance Camp included classes on yoga, meditation, dance techniques and also learning dance routines for CAPERS which will be presented later in the year.
All four girls said that the camp was a fantastic experience which challenged them as dancers. They said the classes were really hard but great fun.
Congratulations to these four girls for their participation in such challenging but rewarding opportunity.

Mrs Owen
Quirindi High School Students EXCEL in their Communication Skills

On Saturday 28 March 2015, four Quirindi High School students attended the Australian Speech Communication Association (ASCA) 2014 Awards Ceremony at The Kings School, North Parramatta. ASCA is an organisation which promotes and helps to develop oral communication and listening skills. It promotes competence, rewards effort and encourages excellence.
The following students achieved outstanding results and were presented with certificates and medals:
Hanna Davis – Centre Medal
Lia Robertson – Studio Medal
Josephine Saunders – Studio Achievement Medal
Brittany Beveridge – Studio Achievement Medal

The guest speaker at the ceremony this year was Australian Actor, Charlotte Hazzard, a former graduate of ASCA. Her most recent achievements have been roles in Packed to the Rafters, Winter and ANZAC Girls.

Charlotte gave a motivating speech about how she developed a great passion for the performing arts, particularly public speaking and drama, through high school. She attained her Certificate of Communication from ASCA during her high school years. Charlotte credits the ASCA program with giving her the skills and confidence to achieve success in her chosen career.

Congratulations to Hanna, Lia, Josephine and Brittany on achieving such high standards in the ASCA Examinations.

Quirindi High School is the only high school in this region that provides students with the opportunity to participate in this nationally recognised program. The achievements of these Quirindi High School students is a fantastic example of how our students are on the same or higher academic level compared to other schools in NSW, Victoria and Queensland.

Mrs Lindi Owen – QHS Teacher Librarian & ASCA Coordinator
Library Happenings!

**Reading Challenge**
Have you challenged yourself to read a book each month yet?
Pick up a book and you just might “Discover or rediscover the joy of reading”!

**Need a Book to Read?**
Come and browse the shelves and try out our Reading Chair!

**Welcome back to Term 2**

**12 Amazing Things You Can Do With a Book**

1. Laugh
2. Be entertained
3. Walk in someone else’s shoes
4. Be moved
5. Make a friend
6. Learn
7. Go on an adventure
8. Escape to another world
9. Go back in time
10. Change the world
11. Be understood
12. Read!

So come to the Library and grab one of our books and see what amazing things you can discover from reading!

**It’s Competition Time**
Like a challenge?
Why don’t you enter the English, Spelling or Writing Competitions!
The English and Writing Competitions are open to all students in Years 7-12.
The Spelling Competition is open to all Year 7 students only.
If you would like more information on these competitions, please see Mrs Owen in the Library.
You have your first block of senior exams coming up. Check out these tips to help you prepare and don’t forget to login to the Online Study Skills Handbook to get some great tips on study techniques.

7 COMMON MISTAKES IN APPROACHES TO STUDYING

Every time you have a test, quiz or exam this year, refer back to this list during your preparation to ensure you are not making these common mistakes in your approach to studying:

1. Not making study notes on a regular basis, instead, waiting till just before the test or exam.
2. Not finishing the study notes early enough before the test so there is not enough time to learn them properly or do practise.
3. Not making the study notes brain-friendly and structured in a way that makes them easy to learn.
4. Not testing yourself to see if you know the content or not, just reading your notes over and over.
5. Not using a wide range of study techniques, being lazy and just using the same old techniques, regardless of whether they are working for you or not.
6. Not doing practise for exams under exam conditions (i.e. time limits and not looking at notes or answers).
7. Not doing questions from a wide enough range of sources.

The aim should be that by the end of the year you have eliminated any of those common mistakes that you are prone to.

It’s Exam Time – Are you Prepared??????

Find out more about PREPARING FOR EXAMS by checking out the information in the online study skills handbook. There is a complete section on HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR STUDY which includes lots of information, tips and examples about:

• Summarising
• Active Studying
• Preparing for Exam Blocks
• Test-Taking Techniques

To learn more about effective studying visit the Summarising and Active Studying unit of www.studyskillshandbook.com.au.

QHS students have direct access to the Online Study Skills handbook through the school’s Moodle site. They use their DET username and password to access QHS Moodle.

You will also find a great new personal development unit: “Live Your Best Life” on the ‘For Students’ tab.
ASCA – TRY SOMETHING NEW THIS YEAR!
Are you interested in developing your communication skills?
Give ASCA a try this year!
Australian Speech Communication Association
ASCA promotes competence, rewards effort and encourages excellence.
ASCA PROMOTES COMPETENCE, REWARDS EFFORT AND ENCOURAGES EXCELLENCE
Participating in ASCA is a great way to promote your communication skills and a great certificate to include in your resume.
ASAC Examinations will be taking place later in the year. See Mrs Owen in the Library for more information.
Get involved – it is well worth the effort!

Bring back unused Textbooks & Library Books
If you have received an Overdue Notice for Textbooks and Library Books in Rollcall, please return these books to the Library ASAP.

Celebrate ANZAC DAY with some biscuits
ANZAC Biscuits
A traditional Australian biscuit, they were sent overseas to serving ANZACs in World War 1 due to their excellent keeping properties.

**Ingredients**
- 1 cup plain flour
- 1 cup rolled oats
- 1 cup brown sugar
- ½ cup coconut
- 125g butter
- 2 tablespoons golden syrup
- 1 tablespoon water
- ½ teaspoon bicarbonate of soda

*Nb. For crunchier biscuits, use more golden syrup*

**Method**
1. Sift the flour into a bowl. Add sugar, rolled oats and coconut.
2. Melt the butter in a saucepan and add the golden syrup
3. Stir in Bicarb soda into the liquid mixture.
4. Add the liquid to the dry ingredients and mix thoroughly.
5. Place teaspoon size balls of mixture on a greased tray and bake at 175°C for 15-20 minutes
6. Biscuits will harden when cool.

Need Help?
Make sure you ask us for help.
Happy Reading and Studying!
Mrs Owen – Teacher Librarian
Mrs Sweep – SAS Library
ICAS competitions are an initiative of Educational Assessment Australia (EAA) of the University of New South Wales (UNSW).

ICAS provides an opportunity for all Year 7-12 students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external assessment situation. It provides schools and teachers with comprehensive reporting of results and also gives parents/guardians helpful information regarding their child’s performance.

All students receive a certificate and an individual report indicating which questions they answered correctly, as well as the average mark for the state/region.

The following competitions are available:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Entry fee, incl. GST</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing - Years 7-12</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>English - Years 7-12</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling - Year 7 only</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
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To enrol your child in ICAS, please complete the registration form attached and return it, with your entry fees, to the Front Office by Wednesday 13 May 2015.

For more information please contact Mrs Lindi Owen on 0267461177.

Mrs Lindi Owen
ICAS Coordinator
LOVE TO READ!

Check out the **Scholastic Book Club Brochures** in the **Library.**
Orders due in to the **Front Office** by **Friday 1 May 2015.**

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**Messages/Books/Money Left at Office for Students**

At school we have a Year 8 runner available periods 1 and 4 to assist office staff with the running of messages and delivering of absentee notices etc.

Outside this time frame, we cannot guarantee that messages/books etc. will be delivered to students as staff may not always be available to leave the office. **Obviously this does not apply to emergency situations.** Please be aware that on Thursday afternoon, students are at sport and this involves many different locations (both inside and outside the school grounds).

If you know that you will be collecting students for appointments etc., please ensure that you send a note to school requesting a leave pass (through the normal channels as outlined in the school handbook) or if you are unsure of the time, please ask students to check for messages at the front office at each break.

Likewise, if you are leaving books, clothes, money at the office, please ensure that students are aware that you will be dropping items and ask them to keep checking during breaks to see if items have been left.

Your help with this would be greatly appreciated.
Students in Year 7 and 9 who have a disability that affects their learning, or have an adjusted learning program in place in the classroom, can be eligible for assistance when they sit the NAPLAN tests. To access special provisions, parents need to make an appointment to discuss their child’s needs with the Principal or Deputy and complete a consent form.

While it is expected that all Year 7 and 9 students should compete the NAPLAN exam, students who have a severe disability can be eligible for exemption or withdrawal from the NAPLAN tests. To exempt or withdraw their child, parents need to make an appointment to discuss their child’s needs with the Principal or Deputy and complete a consent form.
**CHS Open Boys Basketball**

On Wednesday 22\textsuperscript{nd} of April the Quirindi High Open Boys Basketball team travelled to Tamworth Sports Dome to compete in the third round of the North West Knockout. Quirindi played Coonabarabran High and won through a convincing show of dominance in all four quarters of the match. The final score was 84 – 36 with the Quirindi boys comfortably running the game from end to end. Coonabarabran had some skilled moves to try and keep them in the contest, though it was Quirindi’s ability to increase the pace at any moment that kept them well behind our lead. Quirindi are to face Oxley High next week for round four with the winner of this game going through to the regional finals.

Good luck next week boys as this will be a tough game.

Coach – Mr Adam Field

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**Lost Property**

A large amount of lost property items have still not been collected from the front office. If these items are not claimed over the next two weeks, they will then be passed on to the clothing pool. If you have lost an item of clothing, please come and check the lost property box located in the sick bay.

There are also prescription glasses, sunglasses and some jewellery items.
### Dates to put on your Calendar

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Sat/Sun</th>
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<tr>
<td>2 B</td>
<td>27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April  &lt;br&gt;Year 11 Half Yearly Exams Commence</td>
<td>28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
<td>29&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
<td>30&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
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<td>8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; May</td>
<td>9/10</td>
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<td>4 B</td>
<td>11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; May  &lt;br&gt;Year 7-10 Exam Week</td>
<td>12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; May</td>
<td>13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; May</td>
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<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; June</td>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; June</td>
<td>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; June</td>
<td>6/7</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 B</td>
<td>8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; June  &lt;br&gt;Queens Birthday  &lt;br&gt;Public Holiday</td>
<td>9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; June</td>
<td>10&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; June</td>
<td>11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; June</td>
<td>12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; June</td>
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