Quirindi High School Students Excel in Their Communication Skills

ASCA – Australian Speech and Communication Association is an organisation which promotes and helps to develop oral communication and listening skills. It promotes competence, rewards effort and encourages excellence.

This year Quirindi High School had nine students participate in the ASCA Examinations. On Thursday 6 August 2015, these students presented a variety of presentations ranging in topics from Sustainable Agriculture to Domestic Violence, to the ASCA Examiner, Dr Paul March.

Students had spent several weeks preparing for their exams under the guidance of Mrs Anne Scott. These workshops allowed students to research, write and present their speeches in readiness for their exams. Thank you to Mrs Scott for her dedication to the ASCA program at Quirindi High School.

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 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.

Congratulations to these Quirindi High School students who received the following excellent results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certificate of Communication</th>
<th>Hanna Davis</th>
<th>Wade Clarke</th>
<th>Distinction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Grade 6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Emily Cronin</td>
<td>High Distinction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Grade 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lia Robertson</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Grade 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Josephine Saunders</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Grade 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lakara Martin</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Grade 2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Matilda Eade</td>
<td>High Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Grade 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Emma Bridge</td>
<td>Credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Grade 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jade Norvill</td>
<td>Credit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mrs Lindi Owen – QHS Teacher Librarian & ASCA Coordinator
Quirindi High School is working tirelessly to ensure the best possible access to learning is provided to your children each day. We are striving to assist in the development of socially aware, thinking, independent young people who will contribute positively to society. To meet our goal we have a number of activities that are continually on the go within our school framework to support the development of our young people.

Last Friday our students demonstrated their commitment to assisting others in need within our community through their great support of Jeans for Genes day. It was wonderful to see the majority of our students make a gold coin donation to raise money for this important cause. Later in the term our students will continue their volunteer work through selling Legacy badges in our local community.

Our Enrichment Class began this week with a good number of students taking the opportunity to further develop skills that will enhance critical thinking, problem solving, creativity and innovation; skills that are strongly desired in the workforce. These students will be working on individual projects over the remainder of the year and we look forward to seeing the work produced later in Term 4. It is great to see students taking on such a great opportunity. The wellbeing of students is always at the forefront of any decision we make and we are always looking to implement programs that will strengthen and support good decision making within our students. On Monday 17th August Year 7 and 8 students will participate in a discussion and presentation hosted by the School Police Liaison Officer to discuss the legality and repercussions of being involved in sexting. It is important that students realise that what they believe may be private and trusted to another very rarely is. Sending suggestive or naked photos of a minor is classified as distributing child pornography and individuals will be charged by the police. It is also important that students who receive such material from Facebook friends or people they know report these events so that the appropriate support can be provided for them. Students in Year 9, 10 and 11 will also be involved in similar presentations later in the term.

Winter weather has been unkind this season but not unusual, and unfortunately students are letting this dictate their choice to wear uniform or not. Students and parents are reminded that black track suit pants are to be worn only on Thursdays for sport. Should extra layers be required students and parents are asked to ensure that the correct school uniform is the final layer so that students are meeting uniform requirements. As always if you are having difficulty securing the correct uniform items the school is happy to assist you.

Should you have any concerns or queries regarding your child’s education at Quirindi high school please call and make an appointment to come and see us.

Sally Chad
Relieving Principal
JEANS FOR GENES DAY

On Friday 7th August, Quirindi High School students participated in Jeans for Genes Day. It was a huge success thanks to all those students who kindly donated towards Jeans for Genes Day. We raised over $350.

Jeans for Genes Day is an iconic fundraising campaign for the Children’s Medical Research Institute. Every cent that we raised will go towards researching children’s medical issues. Thank you very much for your support.

By Matilda Eade & Liam Faulkner – Year 7 SRC Representatives

U 15’s BASKETBALL

On the 6th of August the Under 15 Boys’ Basketball Team went to Tamworth to play Tamworth high school. They played a very successful game and came home with a win, 73-14. A big thank you goes to Mr Langston for taking the boys to Tamworth by bus and also to Matt Parsons for coaching the Under 15’s team.

By Abbey Lobsey and Nicholas Hamblin – Yr 9 SRC Representative
Bella Takes on US in High School Rodeo Competition

On Wednesday the 10th of June 2015 I flew out to America to represent the Australian High School Rodeo Association in the barrel race and the break away in Des Moines, Iowa. When we first flew into Dallas, Texas, we got on another plane and flew across to Sioux Falls. At Sioux Falls we stayed a night and the next morning we got up and went back to the airport to hire our car.

From Sioux Falls my dad and I drove to Vermillion in South Dakota were I was getting my horse. The horse I was hiring was a pro horse named Spiderman. From there we went over to Rapid City where we saw the famous bear country and lots of buffalo. We also went and saw Mount Rushmore and went shopping. After visiting Rapid City we went back to Vermillion and rode some more horses.

Two days later it was time to start driving to Des Moines, Iowa where we had to check in to the finals. After we checked in we went and had our Team Australia photos. The next day it was the first round of the finals. The finals were ten days long and although I didn’t place in the barrel race, it was great fun. However, in the breakaway finals I placed 4th in the last round.

I had the best time in America. It was the best experience I have ever had. After the finals Dad and I drove to the airport in Des Moines and we got on a plane and flew home.

By Bella McKinley
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"!

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**Need a Book to Read?**

Come and browse the shelves and try out our Reading Chair!

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**Celebrating Book Week**

In Week 7 we will be celebrating Book Week.

Monday 24 August to Friday 28 August 2015

This year’s theme is: Books Light Up Our World

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**COMPETITION TIME**

To help inspire you to celebrate Book Week, QHS Library will be running some competitions. ALL competitions open to staff and students of QHS.

**Competition 1 - Colouring In Competition**

Colour in for Mindfulness!

It’s the hit new hobby for relaxation for 2015!

Grab a colouring in entry form and let your mind relax while you colour the time away!

- Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places
- Entries due in by Wednesday 26 August.

All entries will be displayed in the Library for judging.

Winners announced at the Assembly on Monday 31 August

**Competition 2 – What Book Lights Up Your World?**

Entries due by lunch time Thursday 27 August Week 7

In 25 words or less explain how your favourite book "Lights Up Your World".

- Grab an entry form from the Library and be in the winning for a prize.
- The most entertaining entry will be the winner!
Competition 3 – Create a Lantern Competition

Wednesday 26 August Lunch 1

JOIN THE FUN AT LUNCHTIME AND CONSTRUCT A PAPER LANTERN.
ALL EQUIPMENT WILL BE PROVIDED FOR YOU TO COMPLETE THIS COMPETITION.

Competition 4 – Borrow a fiction book from the Library

AND YOU WILL RECEIVE AN ENTRY TO WIN A BOOK WEEK PRIZE. START BORROWING FROM WEEK 4
WRITE A BOOK REVIEW OF YOUR BOOK AND RECEIVE AN EXTRA ENTRY.
DUE IN BY LUNCH TIME THURSDAY 27 AUGUST.

ENTRY FORMS FOR COMPETITIONS 1 & 2 AVAILABLE FROM LIBRARY

Lots of prizes to be won
So join the fun and help to show how
Books Light Up Our World!

Revision Strategy to try this week:

GAME IT

Useful for anything

- **Key words snap**: write as many key words from the topic as you like onto cards, one word per card. Play snap, against yourself or a partner.
  Every time there is a link between two of the key words, shout ‘snap’, explain the connection, if your partner accepts it you have won the cards. If you were revising History for example, and the words were ‘communism’ and ‘Czechoslovakia’ you might ‘snap’ these by saying that Britain was so afraid of communism that she excluded Russia from the meeting with Hitler about the future of Czechoslovakia in 1938.

- **Index card time trial**: write a term on one side and the definition/key information on the other. You have to accurately identify the information on the reverse within a set time. Play against a partner; you decide on the time limit and how many cards you have to accurately describe in that time. For example, you could have 3 cards in 30 seconds to score a point. You could also do this with questions and answers, rather than terms and definitions.
**Memory game:** write each stage of a sequence on a different card. Turn them over. Turn over one at random and you have to say what comes before and what comes after. You could set yourself a time limit too and play against a partner.

The only limit is your imagination!

**Why does it work?**

- Because you are actively processing the information by making the game.
- Because, by playing several times, you are repeating the revision.
- Because it is auditory and fun. If you include pictures/symbols/colours/different fonts on the game cards it will also be visual: 3 out of 4 factors which our memories like to work with.


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**Premier’s Reading Challenge**

All students involved in the Premier’s Reading Challenge are reminded that you are heading into your last few weeks of reading.

The Challenge closes on Friday 21 August so make sure you are recording your books.

Good Luck with your reading.

**Young Australian Art and Writing Awards**

Have you created a fabulous artwork or piece of writing (short story or poem) this year and would like your work recognised Nationwide?

Enter the Young Australian Art and Writing Awards.

See Mrs Owen for more details.

**Need Help?**

Make sure you ask us for help.

Happy reading and studying!

**Mrs Owen – Teacher Librarian & Mrs Sweep – SAS Library**
These lectures are intended as revision and preparation for the HSC Examination. Our lectures are highly regarded. They provide a comprehensive coverage of a wide range of topics. The Lecturers are experienced mathematics educators with extensive HSC experience.

2015 SCHOOL FEES

Reminder accounts for school fees have now been posted. Payments can be made at the front office.

In 2015, excursions must be paid for in full before a student will be permitted to attend. A student assistance scheme is available through a government funded subsidy whereby anyone who is experiencing financial difficulty is encouraged to send a letter to the Principal requesting assistance with payment for excursions or elective fees. This will be dealt with in the strictest of confidence.

Please keep in mind that payments, no matter how small, are always welcomed.
Dear Parents or Caregivers of Year 8 Students,

The Essential Secondary Science Assessment (ESSA) is an assessment program for all students in Year 8. An interactive, multimedia online test called ESSAonline is held in November each year. It is a diagnostic test that will provide information about what your child knows and can do in science. Tasks in the test are framed on Stage 4 outcomes and essential content in the NSW Science Years 7–10 Syllabus.

Students will be tested on their:

- knowledge and understanding of science
- understanding and skills in the process of scientific investigation, which includes using a simulated experiment
- ability to evaluate evidence, make judgements and think critically
- ability to access information and communicate scientific ideas using a variety of strategies.

ESSAonline takes approximately 80 minutes. It contains video, animations, audio, graphics, text and a variety of test items. It also includes a survey about students’ attitudes to the test, science and their learning of science. Each student needs earphones to be able to complete ESSAonline on a computer.

The confidentiality of each student’s results is safeguarded by NSW legislation which prohibits the publication of results of particular individuals. The legislation also prevents the results of schools being publicly revealed in a way that ranks or compares the results of particular schools. Additionally, information provided by students about their language base, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background and survey responses are treated confidentially to ensure that all students’ right to privacy is maintained.

If your child has a disability that needs special consideration or has been educated in English for less than one year, please contact your child’s school to discuss special provisions or possible exemption from ESSAonline. Special provisions will be provided for students with documented learning support. For example, Braille versions of the test are available for students who are registered as visually impaired.

Results of ESSAonline will be available in Term 1 in the year following the test. A personal report prepared for each student will describe the scientific knowledge and skills demonstrated by the student in the test. There will also be information about how the student’s results compare with overall performance of all students in the test.

If you wish to discuss further please feel free to contact the school on 67 461177.

Regards,

Rebecca Batho
Acting Head Teacher Science
Year 7 HSIE Using QHS’ New Library Management System: OLIVER

During this Term students at Quirindi High School are being introduced to the new Library Management System OLIVER. This is a great new interactive system which allows students to explore not only resources in our school library, but also from a variety of linked databases. Mrs Owen – Teacher Librarian

Emily Cronin using Oliver Library to find information on Archaeology

Using Oliver to find our more details about a resource in the QHS Library

A student using the Federated Search technique to find resources not only in the QHS Library, but also on other linked databases including Google, Click View, Henry Parks State Equity Library (DCE).
# Dates to put on your Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<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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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>17(^{th}) August</td>
<td>18(^{th}) August</td>
<td>19(^{th}) August</td>
<td>20(^{th}) August</td>
<td>21(^{st}) August</td>
<td>22/23</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>HSC Maths Lectures</td>
<td>Year 12 S&amp;C to Sydney</td>
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<td>HSC Drama &amp; Music Performance Night at the theatre</td>
<td>Year 11 Final Exams Begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>24(^{th}) August</td>
<td>25(^{th}) August</td>
<td>26(^{th}) August</td>
<td>27(^{th}) August</td>
<td>28(^{th}) August</td>
<td>29/30</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 11 Final Exams Continue</td>
<td></td>
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<td>HSC Drama marking</td>
<td>NW Girls League Tag</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>31 August</td>
<td>1(^{st}) Sept</td>
<td>2(^{nd}) Sept</td>
<td>3(^{rd}) Sept</td>
<td>4(^{th}) Sept</td>
<td>5/6</td>
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<td>Year 11 &amp; 12 First Aid Course</td>
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<td>7(^{th}) Sept</td>
<td>8(^{th}) Sept</td>
<td>9(^{th}) Sept</td>
<td>10(^{th}) Sept</td>
<td>11(^{th}) Sept</td>
<td>12/13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**School Office Hours**

*Office hours are 8.30am to 3.30pm*