On Thursday 20th August a number of support students joined the senior agricultural students and boarded the school bus to Gunnedah to attend AgQuip 2015. Everyone enjoyed looking at all of the interesting things on show this year. Some highlights included looking at the different breeds of cattle and sheep on display and the vast number of machinery and equipment from small chainsaws to very large tractors and headers. One student commented that “AgQuip was a most unique experience” and “the best part was all the large farm machinery”. AgQuip was a fantastic day had by all students and staff.

Mrs Simpson and Mrs Crane
Support Faculty
Message from the Acting Deputy Principal

WEEK 7:

- Year 11 Yearly Examinations conclude today. HSC courses will commence in Term 4, only 5 weeks from now. Students will need to ensure that all year 11 course requirements have been met so they are eligible to commence their respective HSC courses.
- HSC Major Works for Industrial Technology and Visual Art have been submitted and Drama students performed their major projects for HSC markers. Congratulations and well done to these students for achieving a major milestone.
- Students in Year 11/12 Primary Industries attended a Farm Safety Workshop in Merriwa
- Special Education students in the IM/IO classes visited the Heritage Village for an educationally enriching experience to extend their learning outside the classroom.
- Two League Tag teams travelled to Tamworth for a Gala Day. Our school teams were very competitive and both teams will go onto the next level at Bingara.

WEEK 8:

- On Monday Year 11 and 12 students will be involved in a Mental Health First Aid workshop, increasing their awareness of Mental Health illnesses and coping strategies for dealing with difficult circumstances.
- Under 15s Boys Basketball will be competing at Gunnedah in the Second Round of the Combined High Schools Knockout
- Our Senior Girls Netball team travel to Scone to compete in a Gala Day.
- Our Year 7 and 8 Debating team is versing Oxley High in the Premiers Shield Challenge. Thank you to Rob Lewis for his continued support and adjudication of this event.
- Year 11 and 12 students have been given the opportunity to complete their nationally recognised First Aid Certificate through Parasol, providing them with 3 Year certification.
- SRC Representatives will be selling Legacy badges within the community.
- On Friday we will have our Formal School Assembly at 1pm, where Year 11 candidates will be presenting their Captains Speeches for 2016. Parents and family are more than welcome to come along and show their support.

The behaviour of our students when accessing all of the extracurricular activities on offer has been commendable. One example would be the behaviour on Friday night at the rugby finals. All students, players and spectators, were dressed appropriately, were well mannered and courteous to the public. During the games our students were on the sideline yelling in support. There was no swearing or sledging of the referee, just good natured support. After one of the rugby matches, our players shook hands and thanked the coach for the season without any prompting. After the game the bus stopped in at McDonalds. Before leaving, all students cleaned their tables, again without any prompting. Any of these acts may not seem overly significant to a passer-by but it is a reflection of the personal attributes that most of our students possess. These attributes are going to make them active and productive members of society. Our school has high standards and the quality of our students is evidence that our model for education is working, both inside of the classroom and out.

Acting Deputy Principal
Andrew Harries
Friday Night Rugby 2015

This year, Quirindi High entered four teams into the Tamworth Friday Night Rugby competition. These were the 14s, 16s, Opens Boys and Open Girls. The 14s joined with Barraba Central School, as did the 16s and the Open Girls who combined with St Marys of Gunnedah.

Unfortunately, due to wet weather most of the season’s games had to be cancelled. In the games that were played Quirindi High played well and this continued throughout the season. The 16s ended up runners up to Farrer in the grand final played last Friday night. An outstanding performance was displayed by James Bates as fullback and tries scored by Callum Smith and RJ Cameron. Hayden Taylor had quick feet on the wing and Will Roxborough’s hit-ups in the rucks were outstanding.

We would like to thank Mr Packer for coaching the 14s, Mr Chadwick for coaching the 16s, Mr Harries and Nathaniel Slater for coaching the Open Boys and Ms Chad for coaching the Open Girls. We would also like to thank Mr Owen for his excellent bus driving and crowd control skills. We would also like to extend our thanks to the Barraba players and coaches who assisted our teams throughout the season and lastly a big thank you as well as the supporters who came and watched us play.

By James Bates, RJ Cameron and Will Roxborough.
Friday Night Rugby

Last Friday after school, the fourteen years Rugby Union boys went up to Tamworth to play their last matches. There was excitement throughout the bus when the boys learnt that they would be playing two games; Calrossy I William Cowper for their first game and Farrer for the second. When we got to the fields, coach Ian Packer told us that we had a full team. Including the Barraba players there were twenty-two players in total for the under fourteens giving us plenty of subs. As Quirindi ran onto the field they were met by a fifteen man squad from Calrossy I William Cowper.

Quirindi were first to score and then scored a second in quick succession. Quirindi then ran in another one! Then one more! Thanks to some excellent defence the end result was 4 tries to Quirindi and 0 tries for Calrossy I William Cowper.

The next match was played against Farrer. Farrer got the first points on the board and got the conversion but then Quirindi scored a beautiful try thanks to a diving try executed by Lachlan Bradfield out of dummy half. Unfortunately, however, Quirindi missed the conversion. The score for this match was 7 points for Farrer and 5 points for Quirindi.

After the match I spoke to some of the boys and they all said they were pumped and were very surprised that they had come away with a win, which was very impressive for all of us after only playing three or four games.

All in all the boys did a great job. Bring on next year!

As always a massive thank you to Mr Packer for coaching the team and Mr Owen for driving the bus and stopping at Maccas on the way home.

Written by Angus Nicholls
Uniform at Quirindi High School

Over the past four years we have had a uniform drive at Quirindi High School to promote and encourage students to wear our school uniform with pride. We do not see uniform as an area that we wish to create discipline issues over or generate conflict within our school community about. In fact it is quite the opposite. We are proud of our students and recognise the positive and productive young people they are, and we want them to be recognised as students of our school and we want the community to be able to see the positive involvement our students have within their communities. Uniforms and correctly worn uniforms allow this to happen.

Benefits of school uniforms
The wearing of school uniforms by students will assist school communities in:
- defining an identity for the school within its community
- developing students’ sense of belonging to the school community
- providing an opportunity to build school spirit
- enhancing the health and safety of students when involved in school activities
- promoting a sense of inclusiveness, non-discrimination and equal opportunity
- reinforcing the perception of the school as an ordered and safe environment
- increasing the personal safety of students and staff by allowing easier recognition of visitors and potential intruders in the school
- promoting positive community perceptions of public education
- making school clothing more affordable for families by eliminating the risk of peer pressure to wear transiently fashionable and expensive clothes

Time and time again our students receive compliments from members of the public, many not associated with our school, regarding our uniform and the pride in which our students take when presenting themselves.

This winter season has been particularly cold and one in which we have seen an increase in students being out of uniform on a persistent basis. Thank you to parents who provide notes of explanation for times when students cannot be in full school uniform. No one can predict the weather and rain plays havoc with the washing. We understand that there will be times when uniforms cannot be worn. Students who simply choose not to wear correct school uniform because they wish to be more comfortable or because they don’t like the style of the uniform are becoming a concern.

Quirindi High School recognises that uniforms should be updated and meet current student needs and we are addressing this with our uniform review and adjustment for 2016. Until these changes come into effect we are seeking parent support in ensuring your children are in correct school uniform. School uniform does not include black tracksuit pants (other than on sports days) or hooded jumpers. School shoes are to be all black leather with joggers only being worn on sports days. Please refer to the student handbook to see the requirements of student uniform for 2015.

We understand that cost and availability can be issues at times which may make meeting uniform requirements difficult. Please contact us as we have a number of options available for assisting students to be in correct uniform.

Thank you for your understanding and support in this matter. We are proud of our school and its achievements and encourage our students to be so too.

Sally Chad
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!

Celebrating Book Week:
Books Light Up Our World
Older Readers Book of the Year Winner is
**The Protected**
by Claire Zorn

*I have three months left to call Katie my older sister. Then the gap will close and I will pass her. I will get older. But Katie will always be fifteen, eleven months and twenty-one days old.*

Hannah's world is in pieces and she doesn't need the school counsellor to tell her she has deep-seated psychological issues. With a seriously depressed mum, an injured dad and a dead sister, who wouldn't have problems?

Hannah should feel terrible but for the first time in ages, she feels a glimmer of hope and isn't afraid anymore. Is it because the elusive Josh is taking an interest in her? Or does it run deeper than that?

In a family torn apart by grief and guilt, one girl's struggle to come to terms with years of torment shows just how long old wounds can take to heal.


This book is available for you to borrow from the Library
Celebrating Book Week

GREAT TO SEE STUDENTS AND STAFF GETTING INVOLVED IN THE BOOK WEEK ACTIVITIES

**Competition 1 - Colouring In Competition**

**Competition 2 – WHAT BOOK LIGHTS UP YOUR WORLD?**

**Competition 3 – Create a Lantern Competition**

**Competition 4 – BORROW A FICTION BOOK FROM THE LIBRARY**

Photos and winners will be published in next week’s newsletter

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**REVISION STRATEGY TO TRY THIS WEEK**

**ACROSTICS**

Especially useful for:
- Sequences of ideas, or spellings:

**What to do:**
Make up an acrostic to remember the order of events or the order of letters in a word:

*E.g.* Please Excuse My Dopey Aunt Sally

**[PEMDAS]: Parentheses, Exponents, Multiplication, Division, Addition, Subtraction.**

This mnemonic allows us to remember the order of operations in maths.

*E.g.* Claire Hops About Over Spiders

This acrostic reminds me how to spell “chaos” (it works for me, because my friend Claire causes chaos when she sees a spider – choose a sentence that has meaning for you; the emotional connection will help it stick).

**Why does it work?**
- Because the acrostic you choose will have emotional meaning, so it works as a peg into your emotional memory.

Because the acrostic sentence has an overall meaning, which hold together the separate stages of a process/separate letters of a word and so make it more memorable.

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. All entries need to be in to me by Friday 11 September 2015 (Week 9) 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

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.
International Excursion 2016
Vietnam

What: Preliminary Information Evening Tuesday the 1st of September 2015.

Where: In the Library at 6.30pm.

Who should attend? Interested students and their parents. Students must be in Years 9 - 11 in 2016.

What will we find out? Purpose of the trip, details of the tour, cost and dates of travel.

If you would like further information prior to the evening or cannot make the meeting please contact Sally Chad.

Incoming year 7 2016
Important Dates

Year 6 Taster Day – Wednesday 9th September 2015

Orientation Day and Parent Information Evening – Thursday 3rd December 2015

First Day of School in 2016 – Thursday 28th January 2016
Nicole Alexander is a fourth-generation glazier, who returned to her family's property after a numerous years working in the divergent fields of finance and fashion. She is the author of six novels: The Bark Cutters, A Changing Land, Absolution Creek, Sunset Ridge, The Great Plains and Wild Lands.

Light refreshment will be provided, thanks to FOQL

For bookings & enquiries phone the Library 67462350
### Dates to put on your Calendar

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### School Office Hours

Office hours are 8.30am to 3.30pm