Welcome to all the students and their families for 2016, those who have returned and those who are new to our school community. It has been wonderful to begin the year in a settled and focused way with the vast majority of students presenting with a positive and work orientated attitude over the past two weeks. Students are encouraged to keep up the good work, which has been reflected in the high standard of cooperative behaviour thus far.

The 2016 Swimming Carnival will be held at Quirindi Swimming Pool on Wednesday 10th February, weather permitting. This is a school day and all students are required to attend. Students are to go straight to the pool in the morning and school buses will be dropping students off and collecting students from the pool on that day. Permission to leave the swimming carnival will only be given to students who produce notes requesting leave at the beginning of roll call on the day, just as they would a normal school day. Parents, relatives and friends are invited to come to the carnival to support our students on the day.

On Tuesday the 9th February, we will host a BOSTES Information Evening for parents of Year 11 students at 6pm. All parents are encouraged to attend to receive important information about your child’s educational pathway at our school.

A general reminder that students are not allowed to access mobile phones during the school day. Should there be any reason that you need to contact your son or daughter during the day, please phone our front office and a message will be delivered to your child via a staff member. This will minimise disruptions to the learning of others in classes and also provide support for your child should it be required.

In 2016, we continue to encourage our students not to bring peanut products to school in their lunches and snacks. In line with Department of Education guidelines for managing anaphylactic reactions we are eliminating, as best as possible, contact with allergens for students within our school. In line with the “The NSW Fresh Tastes @ School Guidelines”, our school canteen has a fantastic menu available to our students every day and our menu selection is nut free.

Don’t forget we have a clothing pool at school with uniforms available for both senior and junior students. If you are having trouble obtaining the correct uniform, please contact the school and we can help to solve the issue for you. The introduction of our new school uniform is a work in progress and students do not need to change to the new uniform unless it is time for them to purchase new items. The embroidered white shirts are estimated to arrive in the school during March in both male and female styles. The girls new skirt design is available through “Stitches R Us” in Quirindi.

Finally, we would like to farewell Ms Meghanne Clarke who has taken up the position of “Director PSNSW Clarence Valley” and we wish her the best of luck and she will be missed at Quirindi High School. During Term 1, Ms Sally Chad will be Acting Principal and Mrs Natasha Cowan will be Relieving Deputy Principal.

As always should you have any queries or concerns regarding your son or daughters educational experience at Quirindi High School, please make an appointment time to come and see us.

Natasha Cowan
Relieving Deputy Principal
Quirindi High School Celebrates a Year of Achievements

On Tuesday 15 December, Quirindi High School recognised and celebrated the significant achievements of students for 2015.

Our awards assembly was chaired by Jake Douglas and Hollie Sampson, School Captains for 2016. We had a number of special guests attend including Mr Mark Young, the Director of Wollemi Principals Network, Mr Michael Johnsen MP, Member for the Upper Hunter Electorate and Mr Barnaby Joyce MP, member for New England.

Dr Rob Scott, guest speaker, provided an enlightening speech on his journey from completing his education at Quirindi High School to his current position as an anaesthetist in a Sydney Hospital. Through his speech, Dr Scott, encouraged students to follow their passions and strive to meet their goals.

A feature of the assembly was the beautiful rendition by Lucy Crane of the song “Angel Bones”. Lucy is just one of the talented students we have at Quirindi High School. Another highlight of the assembly was the presentation of academic, cultural and sporting awards to a large number of students.

Ms Sally Chad, Relieving Principal, stated in her address that we have been focussing on “Equipping 21st Century Learners with the capacity to succeed and contribute. At Quirindi High School we want to go beyond the classroom, we want to adjust learning so that our kids have as many options and opportunities open to them post school as possible.”

We also celebrated the achievements of QHS Staff with the presentation of Outstanding Contribution to Education 20 year Service Certificates to Wayne Shiels and Margaret Smith. Wayne also received a farewell gift on his retirement. Judy Squire, QHS Maths Teacher, received a standing ovation upon her presentation of a gift from the school for her retirement. Judy has been teaching for 50 years, with 48 of those years spent at Quirindi High School.

Special mention must also go to Ms Sarah Harvie for coordinating presentation day, who did an amazing job to have everything organised for the day.

Quirindi High School has had a fantastic 2015 and we congratulate all award recipients on their achievements this year. We would also like to thank parents and friends for their continued support of our school. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable Christmas and holiday season.

Mrs Lindi Owen

Presentation Day Coordinator
School Sports Awards

Cory Mackay  Most Consistent Horse Sports Competitor
Zara Constable  Ian Allen Memorial Trophy for Sport & Sportsmanship
Jordan Allan  RJ Mackie & DA Ormerod Trophy for Best All Round Sportsman
Jordan Allan  Steven Wiffy Smith Memorial Trophy for Most Outstanding Sporting Achievement.
Georgie Auld  CS & LM Blood Trophy for Best All Round Sportswoman
Joshua Hamblin  2015 Pierre de Coubertin Award
Sophie Anderson  2015 NSW Premiers Sporting Challenge Medal

LONG TAN LEADERSHIP AND TEAMWORK AWARDS

Hanna Davis  Australian Defence Force Academy Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award - Year 10
Zara Constable  Australian Defence Force Academy Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award - Year 12

SPECIAL AWARDS

Matthew Forsyth  (Year 8)  The JBS Australia Caroona Feedlot Awards – Fully participated in the school merit system & demonstrated JBS Australia Company values
Lydia Smith  (Year 10)
Danielle Lawlor  (Year 12)
Hanna Davis  
*Lions Club of Quirindi Inc Citizenship Trophy*

Wade Clarke & Hanna Davis  
*JC Murdoch Trophy for Contribution to Year 10*

Jake Aubeck  
*Sue Grace Memorial Trophy – Encouragement Award for Year 10*

Meagan Holden  
The Gypsy Moth Award for the Quiet Achiever in Year 10

Mia Constable  
*The Arthur Bramley Memorial award for contribution to Year 7*

Joshua Hamblin  
*The Quirindi Chamber of Commerce, Industry & Tourism Inc – Best Achievement In Business Studies Award*

Lucy Crane  
Capa Shield – Great contribution to Creative & Performing Arts

Wade Hope  
*National Australia Bank Trophy Most Outstanding Achievement in Mathematics in Year 12*

Wade Hope  
*W, H & D Hawker Trust Medallion & Trophy for top English Ext 2 student*

Katie O’Brien  
*University of New England Vice-Chancellor’s High Achievement Prize*

Lachlan Bridge  
*Reuben F. Scarf Award for Commitment*

Danielle Lawlor  
*Caltex All Rounder Medallion*

Peter Anderson  
The Rudman Family Prize for VET

Andrew de Roos  
The Roberts Family Prize for Humanities

Zara Constable  
*Girls School Captain 2015*

Kaitlyn Hamson  
*Girls School Vice Captain 2015*
Tristan Wong  Boys School Captain 2015
Oliver Smith  Boys School Vice Captain 2015

Alanna Hamblin  Dux of School 2014 Medallion (accepted by Sari Hamblin)

QUIRINDI HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Hollie Sampson  Scholarship – Second in Year 11

Jack Roberts  Scholarship – Dux of Year 11

Jack Roberts and Hollie Sampson
Mrs Margaret Smith and Mr Wayne Shiels

Mrs Judy Squire and Mr Wayne Shiels

Dr Rob Scott and Mrs Margaret Smith
2016 SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Wednesday 10\textsuperscript{th} FEBRUARY
8.55am start

- Serious/fun events
- Weirdest and wackiest house dresser
- Belly flop competition
- Teacher vs. student relays
- House relays
- 2016 House Champion
  (Who will it be?)

Parents and caregivers welcome
DON’T MISS IT!

The P&C will be having a BBQ
Sausage Sandwiches – $2
Bacon & Egg Rolls – $4
Quirindi High School P&C would like to welcome all new and existing students and their families to another year at School.

Our P&C committee meets on the last Tuesday of every month 6:30pm during the summer months and 6pm in the winter months. Our meetings are generally held at the Quirindi Bowling Club but we have also started going to the feeder towns for our meetings. Last year we went to Willow Tree and had an enjoyable evening with a meeting and meal at The Graze. Our December Christmas meeting was held at the White Hart Hotel in Murrurundi. Our first meeting this year will be held at the Quirindi Bowling Club and starting at 6:30pm.

We welcome new members to attend these meetings. We are only a small community group but we all have the same common interest and that is helping provide a safe and educational environment for our children. So come along and meet the members and also take the chance to meet staff members. We also invite all new teachers to these meetings.

The P&C or its office bearers may be contacted by leaving a message at the school office reception on 67461177

The P&C Executive and Sub-Committees are:

President – Kim Lawlor
Treasurer – Natel Bradfield
Secretary – Kathy Redgrove
Vice President – Christine Clarke

Meeting dates are as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>February 23rd (Quirindi Bowling Club 6:30pm)</th>
<th>March 29th (AGM)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>May 31st</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
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<td>Christmas meeting TBA</td>
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Library Happenings!
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!

Author Profile

Sophie McKenzie

Sophie McKenzie is the bestselling author of more than 15 novels for children and teens in the UK, including the award winning GIRL, MISSING and SISTER, MISSING. She has won numerous awards, was one of the first Richard and Judy children’s book club winners, and has twice been longlisted for the prestigious Carnegie Medal. McKenzie lives in London and writes full-time.

Source: http://www.bookreporter.com

Lauren has always known she was adopted but when a little research turns up the possibility that she was snatched from an American family as a baby, suddenly Lauren’s life seems like a sham. How can she find her biological parents? And are her adoptive parents really responsible for kidnapping her?
Why Reading is So Important

Everyone knows that reading is important but have you ever asked yourself why that is? Here are 7 great reasons why reading is important. I hope you can really find out the reason why reading is so important for you, so you can gain a brand new desire to explore the world of reading.

1. Expose Yourself to New Things

Through reading, you expose yourself to new things, new information, new ways to solve a problem, and new ways to achieve something. Who knows – you might find your new hobbies from reading. You might actually explore one thing you really like and it may end up becoming your career and success in the future. Exploration begins from reading and understanding.

2. Self-Improvement

Reading helps form a better you. Through reading, you begin to understand the world more. Through reading, you begin to have a greater understanding of a topic that interests you; for example, how to build self-confidence, how to plan better before taking action, how to learn things more effectively. All of these self-improvements start from the reading; through reading, you create a structured path towards a better understanding and discover better actions to take in the future.

Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers. -Charles W. Elio-

3. Preparation for Action

Before you take action on anything, where should you seek for help and guidance? Reading is an excellent starting point. In today’s world, getting reviews and feedback from other people can make a big impact on your next decision, and the pros and cons of each choice. Read about how to cook a meal; how to play chess; which place is nice for the holiday family trip; read the menu before ordering food, read the manual before using a new gadget. These all can help you become more prepared before you really get into it.

Read > Learn > Do > Achieve

4. Gain Experience from Other People

When you are reading, you are actually gaining the knowledge and experience of someone. It can hasten your success towards a goal. It is like a mountain of gems for you to discover in books, which contain people’s successes, failures and advice. Life is too short for you to keep repeating the mistakes that had been made by other people in the past in order for you to reach the results that someone might have already reached. There are more than a thousand billionaires in the world today. To become one of them, the first thing is to learn what they did in the past that allowed them to be where they are today. Reading is a great path to get to know them, and learn from these successful people.

The art of reading is in great part that of acquiring a better understanding of life from one’s encounter with it in a book. | André Maurois
5. Tools of Communication

Communication is the most important tool which can be transmitted through reading. As you communicate through reading, you understand more, and thus you can communicate better with people. A person who knows nothing doesn’t have anything to share, and probably also struggles to understand what others around them are sharing. Through reading, you build a more solid foundation for communication. It is one of the most important tools we use every day to connect with each other. If you don’t read, you can’t connect as effectively with the world and what people are communicating about. Reading connects you with the world.

6. Connecting Your Brain

Reading connects directly to your brain and activates your mind! The brain is a muscle that can be trained and improved. Through reading you can engage your brain and improve it over time.

7. Boost Imagination and Creativity

Reading exposes you to a world of imagination, showing you nothing is impossible. By reading, you are exploring a different angle and perspective on things you might already know. It’s like a huge spider web where you keep linking to more and more of what you already know. There are no limits in reading.

So in your opinion, why is reading so important to you? Can you add reasons to the list? Share them with the Library.


**OVERDUE LIBRARY BOOKS & TEXTBOOKS**

Please make sure that you have returned any overdue library books and textbooks TO THE LIBRARY. We are now in Week 2 and students are borrowing textbooks for 2016. It is important that all textbooks be returned so that there is enough for the new classes. If books are still outstanding an account will go home for payment of these resources.

Please check your student emails for any overdue notices.
Scholastic Book Club is here again. Student clubs are now consolidated into ONE catalogue, filled cover-to-cover with reading fun! The catalogues are available from the library and your orders must be in by Friday, 12th February 2016.

Quirindi CWA Scholarships

Congratulations to the following students on their successful applications for the Quirindi CWA scholarships; Zac Kelly, Emily Butler, Dominic Cook, Mark Matheson, Phoebe Austin and Paige Laison Nichols. This funding was courtesy of Quirindi Arts and Crafts Shop under the Maunder Family Grants.

Jodie Matheson, Brittany Miles, Declan Fuz, Monique Redman and Jack Lawson also received grants courtesy of Quirindi Community Nursery for Support students.

We would like to thank all the above organisations and Quirindi CWA for their ongoing support!
QUIRINDI & DISTRICT SOCCER ASSOCIATION INC

(Quirindi Junior Soccer 0-18yrs)

Annual General Meeting – EMERGENCY FOLLOWUP MEETING

7.00pm Thursday 18 February 2016

Quirindi RSL Club

For further information contact:

Warren Faulkner Ph: 0455 090183
Michelle Gallagher Ph: 0428 463505
Davin Goodwin Ph: 0428 658045
International Women's Day Dinner
Tuesday 8th March 2016
Quirindi Royal Theatre
Henry Street, Quirindi
Commencing 6.30pm
Bookings Essential by Wednesday 2nd March
Phone - 6746 1755 or go online to www.trybooking.com/KHNC or Council’s Administration Office
Tickets - $25.00
Includes 2 course meal, provided by ZEST Catering, Guest Speakers and music from 2016 Toyota Star Maker Finalist Allison Forbes
Bar Available

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE, THE WORD ITSELF SAYS “I’M POSSIBLE”!
- AUDREY HEPBURN
## Dates to put on your Calendar

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<th>Week</th>
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### School Office Hours

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