Message from the Relieving Principal

We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore is not an act, but a habit.

-Aristotle

Excellence is a loaded word; a word that looks different to each individual. It is a word that is applied to many aspects of our daily lifestyle and it is a word we apply to our school. Quirindi High School repeatedly supports students to attain excellence in their educational outcomes. We don’t simply use HSC and NAPLAN results to measure our level of excellence; we look further for our students than this immediate data. We look at the post school opportunities for our students and it is great when we get former student and parent feedback in regards to where our alumni now are in the world.

2016 has seen a number of our 2015 HSC cohort succeed in gaining fulltime employment in their chosen fields both locally and abroad. Over the past two weeks parents have said goodbye to their children whom they have sent off to study at universities in Sydney, Newcastle and Armidale. These journeys for students outside of our rural setting shows that we prepare our students for all the opportunities they can access in the world.

The whole staff continue to develop their educational expertise. The professional dialogue that occurs in staffrooms focusses on knowing what impact we are having on student learning. We continue to gather evidence within the classroom and from student feedback to guide our practice. This professional focus is the factor that provides the level of excellence we seek at Quirindi High School.

We are making quality teaching a habit, and this habit will result in excellence for your child. While 2016 has seen a significant change in staff profile it has not seen a shift in our focus. Quirindi High School remains focussed on excellence in a rural setting and enhancing 21st Century learning.

As always should you have any questions or queries regarding your child’s experience at our school please contact the school and make an appointment to come in and see us.

Sally Chad
Relieving Principal
New Faces at Quirindi High School

Pictured above – Mr Peter Grace (HSIE Head Teacher), Mr Blake Hamilton (HSIE) & Mr Timothy Rowe (HSIE)

Miss Kimberley Reichel (MATHS)         Miss Angela Eykamp (SCIENCE)

Missing from the photos are Mrs Roxanne Harris (ENGLISH) and Mrs Lisa-Maree Stewart (MATHS)

Welcome to our new staff members at Quirindi High School.
NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM

Each year NSW Health works in partnership with schools to offer the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program.

In 2016 the following vaccines will be offered:

Year 7 students*
- DTPa vaccine (Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis (whooping cough)) as a single dose
- varicella vaccine (chickenpox) as a single dose; and
- human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in a 3-dose schedule at 0, 2 and 6 months (students who commence HPV vaccination in Year 7 but do not complete the course may be offered catch-up doses at school in Year 8)

* The Parent Information Kits contain a consent form, information sheet and privacy statement that details how personal information will be collected, stored and utilised.

Consent form kits will be sent home to parents/guardians. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/guardians are advised to:
- read all the information provided
- complete the consent form, including signing their name next to the vaccine/s they would like their child to receive
- return the completed consent form to their child’s school
- ensure that their child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.

Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by writing to the school Principal or phoning the school. The Procedure for Withdrawal of Consent is available on the NSW Health website at www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation

To improve vaccination completion, students will be opportunistically offered any missed doses throughout the year where possible.

Please note that for HPV vaccine only, parents/guardians must record their Medicare Number (all 10 digits and the 11th number beside the child’s name) on the consent form, as this is required to record the student’s information on the National HPV Vaccination Register and (for female students only) link to the National or State Cervical Screening Program.

A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated at each clinic. Parents/guardians should ensure that this record is kept for future reference and should not assume that their child has been vaccinated if they do not receive this Record of Vaccination.

Vaccination packs will be given out to all year 7 students on Monday 15th February. Please return completed forms to the front office.
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 officebearers 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) ❖ March 29th (AGM)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>❖ May 31st ❖ June 28th</td>
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<td>Term 3</td>
<td>❖ July 26th ❖ August 30th</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
<td>❖ October 25th ❖ November 29th ❖ Christmas meeting TBA</td>
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Library Happenings!

“Discover or rediscover the joy of reading”!

Need a book to read? Come and browse the shelves and try out our Reading Chair!

Library Subscriptions

Have you seen our library subscriptions?

Ever wondered what a beard has to do with relationships? Who were the baddies of the ancient world? What’s the ‘goss’ in sport right now? The ethics of ‘designer babies’? Who Taylor Swift is dating?

You can utilise the library’s magazine subscriptions at any time in the library. From Inside Sport to Australian Geographic, Girlfriend, Choice, Science Illustrated, to Archaeological Diggings and more. We have a variety of interesting magazines to choose from, whether reading simply for interest, or looking for a specific article for an assessment.

As well as magazines, you can come and read the selection of newspapers in the library. Come on in and browse the library’s subscriptions.
How can I tell if a website is reliable?

There are six ways you can tell if your website is reliable. By checking if your website is reliable, you can ensure you are generally gaining good, accurate and intelligent information. After all, the internet is full of information from all sorts of people, not all of which is well put together.

It can be challenging to determine whether a website you’re using is reliable, but here are a few things to look for:

- **Author** – Information on the internet with a listed author is one indication of a credible site. The fact that the author is willing to stand behind the information presented (and in some cases, include his or her contact information) is a good indication that the information is reliable.

- **Date** – The date of any research information is important, including information found on the Internet. By including a date, the website allows readers to make decisions about whether that information is recent enough for their purposes.

- **Sources** – Credible websites, like books and scholarly articles, should state the source of the information presented.

- **Domain** – Some domains such as .com, .org, and .net can be purchased and used by any individual. However, the domain .edu is reserved for colleges and universities, while .gov denotes a government website. These two are usually credible sources for information (though occasionally a university will assign an .edu address to each of its students for personal use, in which case use caution when citing). Be careful with the domain .org, because .org is usually used by non-profit organisations which may have an agenda of persuading you, rather than education. This is less important if you want to find out about that organisation.

- **Site Design** – This can be very subjective, but a well-designed site can be an indication of more reliable information. Good design helps make information more easily accessible.

- **Writing Style** – Poor spelling and grammar are an indication that the site may not be credible. In an effort to make the information presented easy to understand, credible sites watch writing style closely.

Of course, there may be some reliable websites that do not include all these qualities. If you are unsure whether the site you’re using is reliable, check the information you find there with another source you know to be reliable, such as an encyclopaedia or a book on the subject. The kind of websites you use for research can also depend on the topic you are investigating. In some cases it may be appropriate to use information from a company or non-profit organization’s website, such as when writing an industry or company overview.

Source: Adapted from University of Wisconsin - [https://uknowit.uwgb.edu/page.php?id=30276](https://uknowit.uwgb.edu/page.php?id=30276)
LIBRARY EASTER COMPETITIONS

There will be two competitions available to enter via the library for Easter. Both prizes are a jar of Easter eggs. You may enter both competitions.

The first is an egg-guessing competition. Borrow a book in the library before Wednesday the 16th of March, to enter your name in the competition to win a jar of Easter eggs. The person with the closest correct guess to the number of eggs, will win the jar.

The second is an Easter haiku writing and egg decorating competition. Write a haiku on, and decorate a paper Easter egg to have the chance at winning a second jar of Easter eggs. Details are in the library, including how to write a Haiku! Come and check it out! Entries are due by Wednesday 16th March.

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 3 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.

Happy Reading and Studying!
Mrs Berry – Relieving Teacher Librarian
Mrs Sweep – SAS Library Assistant
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
Come along to the Terminus Hotel on Saturday 5th March 2016 from 3pm to 5pm

For our annual fundraising event
We will be selling our final tickets to our Hamilton Island Holiday. Drawn at 4pm

Don’t miss out
Great entertainment with the very talented Lucy Crane and Brad Houldsworth.
Free Face painting & Jumping castle.
A great Family afternoon out.
The Terminus kitchen will be open from 4.30 with a limited menu.

See You at the Terminus on Saturday 5th March 2016.

You never know you might even win a holiday.
International
Women’s Day Dinner
Tuesday 8\textsuperscript{th} March 2016
Quirindi Royal Theatre
Henry Street, Quirindi
Commencing 6.30pm
Bookings Essential by Wednesday 2\textsuperscript{nd} 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 \textit{Z\textsuperscript{3}EST} Catering, Guest
Speakers and music from 2016 Toyota Star Maker Finalist
Allison Forbes
Bar Available

\textit{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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<td>North West Boys Volleyball</td>
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<td>Year 7 &amp; 12 Parent Teacher Evening 4pm – 6pm</td>
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### School Office Hours

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

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