Principal’s Report

Our year 12s intending to head to University have just undertaken the QCS test and we are hopeful of our continued successful performance with OP outcomes. Over the past term, these students have been coached in the skills of completing the test and I thank my leadership team, including Mr Bruce Johnson (Guidance Officer) who have worked hard in preparing the students. Of course, it is not only the QCS test which is important for OPs, but it is about the regular classroom experiences and curriculum that our teachers provide for the students which develop the knowledge and skills needed to be successful. For us, it is the culmination of five years of secondary study leading to tertiary opportunities. No matter what year level your child is in, they do have exposure to the “common curriculum elements” which make up the QCS test, and these are taught throughout secondary school as they are a natural part of our curriculum.

I was pleased to hear such great news recently on a number of fronts with the performance of our students. We have had success with the Year 8 Maths Interschool Competition, the Japanese Speaking Competition, fantastic performances at the BSSS Athletics Carnival and excellent results in the Australian Mathematics Competition. It is impressive to see the effort and willingness of our young people to want to participate and succeed. I thank my teachers who continue to give their time to help your children in so many areas.

Recently I spoke to the students about the support they do get here from staff – including things like after school tutorials, extensive feedback on assessment, sport coaching, speaking competition coaching, student leadership, etc. Our school community is special, and I can honestly say I have never seen such opportunities and encouragement given to students as in this school. We are indeed fortunate to have such hard working and caring staff.

As our school term builds up to the final week, which we now call LPC Week, our students are involved in a variety of activities which reinforce our strategic agenda of Learning, Performance and Citizenship. Be it on year 9 camp, on work experience or involved in the year 8 activity program, our students are learning through rich experiences in a different context. I believe that this week has a significant contribution to our learning environment and school culture and I very much look forward to seeing students derive maximum benefit from it. I am also looking forward to my first Terrible Creek experience!

Finally, our enrolment processes for next year are well under way. The date for submission of enrolments will be Wednesday 23 October. Our local primary schools of Gumlu, Osborne, St Colman’s and Home Hill SS will all receive information packages shortly. If parents and carers are aware of other students intending to come to us in 2014, please pass these details onto them, and we will send out enrolment information.

All the best

Steven Miskin
Home Hill State High School teachers, parents and students were treated to a multitude of events to celebrate National Science Week.

To mark the start of National Science Week, students were informed of their success in the National Science competition.

52% of the students completing the competition received a credit or higher. This is a fantastic achievement and well above the state average. The following gives a guide to the achievement of these students.

**Credit** – top 35% of the state
**Distinction** – top 10% of the state
**High Distinction** – top 1% of the state

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<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
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<th>High Distinction</th>
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<td>Year 8</td>
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<td>Elena Postma</td>
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<td>Lily Woodlock</td>
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<td>Year 9</td>
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<td>Samantha Burbidge</td>
<td>Mikaylah Wall</td>
<td>Patrick Ryan</td>
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<td>Andi Gelling</td>
<td>Adam Walton</td>
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<td>Sam Marano</td>
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<td>Year 10</td>
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<td>Darcy Alford</td>
<td>Rachel Marano</td>
<td>Druce Becke</td>
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<td>Ryan Attard</td>
<td>Christina Postma</td>
<td>Cassandra Loizou</td>
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<td>Samantha Carrett</td>
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<td>Coralie Mannea</td>
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<td>Year 11</td>
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<td>Reece D’Alessandro</td>
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<td>Jackson Dahlenburg</td>
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<td>Year 12</td>
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<td>Ashleigh Attard</td>
<td>Laurance Papale</td>
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<td>Amos Lipsys</td>
<td>Bradley Sibson</td>
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<td>Paul Zamperoni</td>
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Distinction and High distinctions students

Credit students
In collaboration with NQ Astronomy, Home Hill SHS hosted a Solar Astronomy Day. There were many solar displays and experiments on offer. A solar telescope was available from which students were able to view solar flares and sunspots. A highlight of the day was when students had a Q & A session with USA astronomer Stephen Ramsden via video link. Many thanks go to Mr Rob Black and Mr George Heyes for volunteering their time and sharing their knowledge of astronomy.

The year 10 Science students designed egg drop parachutes as part of their EEI, the year 8s designed Mouse Trap Cars, the year 12 Chemistry students examined SO$_2$ content in wine, concentration of aspirin, oxidisation of alcohol and vitamin C concentration while the year 11 Biology Students performed dissection on a bullock heart, lungs, eyes, kidney and liver.
Our year 8s are the best “Mathletes” in the Burdekin.

The questions were hard, the opposition tough and the atmosphere electrifying. Two Home Hill High Teams had battled students from Ayr SHS and BCHS for over an hour in the Year 8 QAMT Mathematics Quiz. Mental Arithmetic, Estimation, and Individual Written Problem Solving Questions were completed. When the results were tallied, our leading team was coming third behind the two BCHS teams. The Ayr SHS coach whispered that BCHS looked unbeatable with only two rounds to go. However from deep within, our girls took hold of the training they had undertaken in the lead-up to this day and backed themselves to win. This confidence was wonderful to see. The final round came and Home Hill had moved into second place. A near perfect round was required for victory. Our girls achieved this and won the event on the very last question. Wow! What great students we have at this school!

Congratulations go to the winning team: Nikola Poli, Elena Postma and Karli Linton. I also highly commend our second team Lilly Woodlock, Erin Grimbaldeston and Naomi Loizou and our reserve Nikita Fabian for the fantastic effort they put into training and preparing for the Quiz.

Robert Lipsys (Year 8 Mathematics Coach).

The Premier’s Anzac Prize 2014 needs students from years 8 to 11

Students interested in the Anzac tradition are encouraged to apply for the chance to visit Gallipoli, Belgium and France as part of Anzac Day 2014 commemorations. The Premier’s Anzac Prize 2014 covers students’ travel, accommodation, meals and insurance.

The five winners from this year’s trip have posted photos, reports and a video covering their experiences visiting historical sites in Turkey and the Western Front which are available from: www.education.qld.gov.au/anzac-prize/

The student application pack, guidelines and criteria are also available from this site. Be sure to check the resources section which includes application tips. Student entries for the 2014 prize close on 20 September 2013, the anniversary of the 1917 Battle of Menin Road.

WORK EXPERIENCE

September 16 will soon be here, and for that week you will be able to see our years 10, 11 and 12 students hard at work in shops, workshops and offices throughout the Burdekin. Our work experience program aims to give students the opportunity to determine what career path they may like to pursue once they leave school. Good luck to all those students who are participating in work experience and thank you to all those businesses that take the time to invest in the training of our students.
Dear Parents

**Australian Government assistance for National Capital excursion**

Students from our school will soon undertake an educational tour of the national capital. While on this tour they will participate in a variety of educational programs focused on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognizes the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. To assist you in meeting the cost of the excursion, the Australian Government will be contributing $120 in funding under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) program toward the travel expenses incurred. This contribution will be paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this program.

Activities that will be undertaken as part of this educational tour will be covered in the September Newsletter. We hope that the excursion is a rewarding experience for all students.

Yours sincerely

Anne Kerr

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**Year 12 Civics Citizenship and Physical Education Tour**

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT – STUDENTS RECEIVE CERTIFICATE I IN BUSINESS

This year the Commerce Department introduced a new subject option for year 10 called Vocational Education. Students taking this option work towards achieving Certificate I in Information, Digital Media and Technology, Certificate I in Business, and some units of competency in Certificate II in Business. Earlier this year the majority of students in the year 10 Vocational Education class received their Certificate I in Information, Digital Media and Technology, and now many of them have also completed their Certificate I in Business. Students who have completed this Certificate will receive two QCE points towards their Queensland Certificate of Education.

Congratulations and well done for all of your hard work to Aden West, Brandy Amore, Bridgette Hill, Brontie Rea, Christina Postma, Connor Sibson, Daniel Zamperoni, Gina Papale, Jarred Whitman, Katherine Hookey, Nakoma Coutts, Rachel Marano, Renee Connors, Samuel Woodlock, Sophie Loizou and William Thomson.
The Students’ Ball is the major inter-school social event in the school year. This Ball is always one of the first events in the Harvest Festival Week and this year the theme is “Alice in Wonderland”. As it is hosted by the Home Hill High’s Parents and Citizens Association for students, it is a drug and alcohol-free event. Normal school standards apply to behaviour, dress and language.

Only students currently in Years 10, 11 and 12 at the three Burdekin high schools are eligible to attend. While we appreciate that the pre-Ball gatherings play an important part in ensuring the success of the night, we hope that parents will be pro-active in supporting our stance on no drugs and alcohol and therefore ensure that these pre-Ball gatherings are also alcohol and drug free. Students who arrive at the Ball having consumed alcohol will not be admitted.

We are very grateful to the large number of local businesses who sponsor our event with prizes. A sub-committee of P & C parents will be responsible for contacting the sponsors and organising the prizes. Our year 11 student committee has had several meetings and those students will choose, design, print and make the tickets, hall and table decorations. Regular weekly or fortnightly meetings are now taking place.

Supper will be provided by our P & C Association as well as from the donations that the parents of our students in years 10, 11 and 12 contribute. Students and parents are asked to put this date, Friday 1 November on their calendar and to then provide a plate/donation towards this major social and fundraising event. Parental supervision and assistance will be called for in October. If you are interested in helping, please come to our next P & C meeting on Tuesday 10 September – many hands make light work, and your ideas are always welcome.

Bev Edwards

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Gumlu State School

Celebrating 100 years

13 October 2013

BBQ Lunch 10.00am – 5.00pm

This is an open invitation to all ex-students, parents and staff as well as the general public to join together to celebrate 100 years of education in Gumlu.

Please call Joanne on 0407126460 if you are thinking of attending (for catering purposes) and please bring a chair if you are able to.
Senior Conference and Transition Expo

On Tuesday 20 August, Riley Jones, Shirley Steinhardt and Mrs Williams attended the Transition Expo in Townsville. The expo was an opportunity for students to gain information regarding their post school options. Some of the information booths included Supported Employment Agencies, Government Agencies and Community Services. Both Riley and Shirley were able to talk to service providers and collect numerous brochures (and gifts) from the event.

Following on from the Expo was the two day Senior Conference for students in Year 11 and 12. Shirley Steinhardt thoroughly enjoyed participating in the many workshops designed to help students prepare for life after school. Additionally, it was also a fantastic opportunity for Shirley to meet people and make new friends.

Wonderful news from the Japanese class!

For the first time ever, Home Hill State High School recently competed in the annual Townsville Japanese speech competition. Five students from years eight and nine, Naomi Loizou, Nikola Poli, Alana Swindley, Jacklyn Walters and Samantha Burbidge, worked very hard preparing their Japanese speeches. On the big day, all of the students did very well, but special note must be paid to year eight student Nikola Poli who came third in her division. This is an outstanding achievement considering there were over twenty other students competing against her from schools all across Townsville and the Burdekin.

It was also great to see the students behaving with such good manners and doing the school proud. Well done!!! ☺ I would also like to thank Mrs Loizou, Mrs Poli and Mr Swindley for taking their time to drive the students to and from Townsville on the day. Thank you very much for your support!

Comments from the students

The competition was a great way to meet new people and learn even more about the Japanese culture. I am so glad that I went, and I strongly advise anybody else to have a go if they had a similar opportunity. Jacklyn Walters

All of the speeches were amazing and even though we had only been doing Japanese for a year and a half, we put up a good fight with our speeches. It was Kakkoi (cool)!! Alana Swindley

There were many students who competed from many Townsville schools and even from Charters Towers. It was a great experience to hear the students present their speeches. Naomi Loizou

The day was a great success! I had a lot of fun, as I had learnt many new Japanese words and much more about Japan’s culture. All competitors participated very well, and it was noticeable that everyone had a great time! Nikola Poli
Yes the year is flying by. Over the past few months, I have continued to support students who are facing a variety of issues whether they be school related, peer related home related or personal issues such as confidence building, anger management, stress/anxiety management, goal setting, behaviour management, depression etc. Every student at our school is precious and I am here for every student needing support or just someone to talk to.

In the last few months, I have also been able to do some fun and exciting things with the students. In July I was asked to go on the Learning Support camp with teacher Mrs Rhonda Williams and seven wonderful students. We had a great time on camp and I was able to get to know these students even better. Going on camps with students is really a great way for me to build rapport with students outside of the school environment. Better rapport usually means that students feel more comfortable coming to see me whenever they may need someone to talk to regarding the various pressures they may be facing. Being here for these wonderful students is what my role is all about.

Part of my role also involves getting guest speakers or entertainment into the school from time to time. In the past this has been things such as; the YWAM (Youth with a Mission) team; Auslife, a live band, a mechanical bull, and Red Frogs Speakers. Last month, I was able to organise for ‘Young Chozen’ to come and perform some of his rap songs during the lunch break. Young Chozen is an American rapper who performs rap songs about positive life messages. He is exceptionally talented at what he does and very entertaining. The feedback I received from students and staff was fantastic. The students loved having something different to do in the lunch break and many asked if we could get him back to the school again. I think almost every student in the school came to watch his performance which is fantastic considering attendance to his performance was voluntary as it was in the lunch break. Even a certain Deputy Principal enjoyed Young Chozen’s performance and tried to show off some of his own dance moves, ha ha. Unfortunately I don’t have any photographic evidence of this. But seriously, performances such as this, provides us with another avenue to speak positive life messages into young people’s lives in a way that is interesting and fun to them.

If anyone would like to speak with me in regards to supporting their child in anyway throughout their school journey, please do not hesitate to contact me at school on Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. Or alternatively if you have any ideas for programs or activities for students that you would like to discuss with me, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Chappy Jennie.
WATCH OUT THE ROBOTS ARE COMING!

Led by our very own Asimov, Ms Mavanna, our next generation of robotic engineers are hard at work at Home Hill SHS. As an extra-curricular activity, these students are currently learning the techniques of programming and seeing robotics in action. Students have been programming the robots to complete various tasks, including dance. Over time, it is hoped we may be able to compete in Robocup, a state wide competition.

In the short term, our students will be teaching year 7 students from our local primary schools about robotics as part of an initiative funded by the Rural and Remote Education Access Package (RREAP). The equipment being used here belongs to Osborne SS and we will be expanding our resources with some new purchases so this initiative will be sustained over time.

RUGBY SEVENS

Home Hill High fielded one senior team comprising Aaron Benato, Ayden Marano, Cade Kovacich, Callan Sunderland, Druce Becke, Elliot Marano, Joel Hanson, Josh Previtera and Mark Barbagallo, to compete in a seven-a-side competition between Ayr High, BCHS and Home Hill. With practically no rugby players in the team, the boys played well against their more experienced opponents over the three weeks of competition. During the first week Ayr High forfeited to Home Hill so the boys played BCHS twice. They won the first game but went down to BCHS in the second. The second week’s schedule was postponed as all schools had athletics carnivals at that time.

In the next two weeks of competition, Home Hill High boys went down to their more skilled opponents. To the boys’ credit and with the efforts of coach Murray Cannavan and Dad and supporter Joe Marano, the boys showed improvements in both skills and mastery of the general rules of the game. Well done boys!
Immediately following their Smart Skills restaurant training this year, the students were busy planning and preparing for event management activities. This term the two events were the Rotary and Lions Dinner meetings. The students were able to utilize their Smart Skills restaurant service training when they set up the school dining room restaurant and prepared and served a delicious three-course menu to approximately 20 Rotary and Lions members and guests each night, including guest speaker Rachael Becke.

The menu included:

**Soup:** Thai Style Pumpkin Soup, Chicken and Corn Chowder

**Main:** Roast Loin of Pork with Spinach and Pancetta Stuffing, Basil and Lemon Roast Chicken, Veal Parmigiana, Slow Cooked Lamb Shanks

**Dessert:** Cherry Ripe Cheesecake, Lemon Curd Cheesecake, Hazelnut Chocolate and Pear Turnovers, Maple Pecan Cake.

This great choice of menu was warmly received by our customers and the students had great fun organising delicious accompaniments, developing garnishes and decorating the plates attractively.

The students who eagerly participated in this rewarding and fun event were Eilish Wall, Chloe Jenkins, Amber and Mariah Johnson, Shirley Steinhardt, Kali Totorica, Danielle Shepherd, Hayden Hanlon and Michael Torney. Also participating this year was year 10 student Taminda Stewart. Congratulations to all these students for their combined team effort and dedication to the success of the events. Thanks also to Joanne Lewty, Vanda Hodder, Rhonda Williams, Dee and Nicola Musumeci and Lee-ann Eathorne, all of whom were of invaluable assistance to Mrs Kerr on the night.

![Group Photo]

**Hospitality Work Placement**

Congratulations to those year 11 and 12 Hospitality students who have just completed five weeks (3 hours per week) work placement as part of their course. These students have been working in motels, restaurants, cafes and bars in the following local venues.

- **Chloe Jenkins** – Ayr Traveller’s Motel
- **Eilish Wall** – Commercial Hotel
- **Amber Johnson** – Burdekin Motor Inn
- **Mariah Johnson** – Cutter’s Café
- **Danielle Shepherd** – Home Hill Café and Catering
- **Michael Torney** – Crown Hotel

Thank you to all these businesses for allowing our students this rewarding experience.
School Uniform

The P & C have endorsed an amendment to the school’s school uniform policy to commence in 2014. The changes reflect a need to ensure the work health and safety of students, particularly in terms of jewellery. The continued support of all parents and carers in ensuring our uniform policy is upheld is greatly appreciated.

School Uniform for Boys and Girls

Shirt: green/grey polo shirt with yellow trim, school emblem and school name on collar

Shorts:
For everyday wear students may choose plain bottle green drill shorts with HH logo or plain bottle green sports shorts with HH logo.

For more formal occasions, like Leaders’ Investiture, students must wear bottle green drill shorts with HH Logo.

Skirt option for girls: bottle green skirt with inverted pleats and HH logo (instead of shorts)

Sports Uniform for Boys and Girls

There is an option for students to wear the sports uniform which is as follows:

Shirt: bright yellow polo shirt

Shorts: plain bottle green sports shorts with HH logo

Miscellaneous

Other elements of the dress code are.

✓ Winter clothing: Jumpers and track pants must be bottle green. Black trouser/tights are permitted
✓ Socks for all uniforms are short white with green and gold stripes.
✓ Shoes with secure fastenings (laces/Velcro) should be worn by all students. For safety reasons, it is highly recommended that shoes have impervious uppers. Students are expected to comply with WHS regulations in relation to footwear, within specific work areas.
✓ Hats are reversible bucket style, in green and gold, with embroidered school name. The wearing of a hat is a compulsory requirement for all sporting activities.
✓ Head bands must be plain and one colour.
✓ Jewellery is limited to a watch and plain gold/silver small sleepers or studs or a plain black spacer. Piercings are restricted to ears only, with no facial piercings or bolts. Chains, necklaces, bracelets and anklets are not permitted.
✓ Health and Physical Education - to minimise damage to school uniform and to save extra washing of sports uniforms, students are allowed to wear suitable clothes of any type for Physical Education lessons. These clothes are for the particular lesson only - they are not to be worn to and from school.

Any item of apparel that poses a risk to Work Health and Safety of students and staff is not permitted. We trust that parents/carers will support the school’s endeavours to implement the uniform change and uphold high standards in relation to the school’s dress code. Any questions in relation to the uniform change should be directed to the Principal or Deputy Principal.

Exceptional Circumstance

Should a student need to wear jewellery for significant medical reasons, exemption must be sought by a parent/guardian through the Principal.

PARENTS PLEASE:

Please do not bring “Take Away” food for students during the school day. Thank you.

S Miskin - Principal
On Friday 23 August, Home Hill SHS competed in the Interschool Athletics Carnival. A bus-full of our most talented athletes travelled over to Ayr High to compete against Ayr SHS and Burdekin Catholic High School. Our students contested every event with exemplary talent and sportsmanship. A number of our students broke records; congratulations to Dana and Mackenzie Falco, Boyd Spalding, Cassandra Loizou and Kate Neal on their exceptional efforts. Kate Neal and Jacob Nascone both had busy days and were crowned 16 Year Age Champions. Home Hill also brought home the “Aggregate” trophy for 2013. Well done team!

These students will compete in the North Queensland trials this Friday; Alana Swindley, Erin Grimbaldeston, Laurance Papale, Boyd Spalding, Chris and Josh Previtera, Cassie Loizou, Dana and Mackenzie Falco, Kate Neal, Jamaine White and Kim Bourke. Good luck!