Principal’s Report

Welcome to our final term for what has been an outstanding year. We have a very busy schedule once again, but it is all about ensuring that we are well and truly focussed on excellence in learning, maximising performance and quality citizenship.

Our LPC week at the end of Term 3 was a tremendous success and we really did see the full range of Learning, Performance and Citizenship (LPC) in action. I experienced my first “Terrible Creek” camp with the year 9s, and I thoroughly enjoyed it, as did the students and staff. I am of the strong opinion that this camp is a critical part in developing the very positive culture that we have in our school – a generational camp where students from the past 30 or so years have ‘roughed it’ and learned to push themselves out of their comfort zones. The students and staff develop new relationships, learn about each other and tackle the elements together. What a great experience.

Similarly, the year 12 Civics trip to Canberra, Sydney and the ski fields is another culturally significant event, almost like a rite of passage. From all accounts, it was an excellent trip.

Meanwhile, back at Home Hill … yes, things were in full swing here for LPC week, with year 8s engaged in a range of valuable learning experiences in a different context, and our remaining Year 10s, 11s and 12s out on Work Experience. All in all, a great week! I want to thank my staff sincerely for their ‘above and beyond’ contributions to make this all possible for our kids, and a special thanks to our dads who came along on the Year 9 camp – you were invaluable!

Now on to Term 4! There is plenty happening over the next 10 weeks, including the build up to final exams and assessment, and of course, the completion of secondary education for our year 12s. It is a time of mixed emotions for the seniors but I am making it very clear to all that we are focussed on learning to the last day. Over my years in education, I have seen some students think too much about Schoolies and not enough about their final assessment. These students fail to capitalise on their previous effort and let themselves down - my staff and I are determined to see the right attitude to the end. Our motto “The Crown Ends The Work” has special significance right now, and we all want the best performance by all students as they reap the rewards of past effort.

I very much look forward to our Awards nights, Students’ Ball and Valedictory night as we celebrate so much. A reminder that this year, full school uniform is required for our Awards nights.

In reference to celebration, I am pleased to advise that Home Hill SHS came third in Queensland in the Science and Engineering challenge! We were the best State School in Queensland, and given our size, this is a monumental achievement. Well done to our year 9/10s and to our Science department.

Remember that you can keep up to date with our school events by visiting our website, or downloading the QSchools App, which directly feeds up to date information.

Best wishes to one and all
Stevan Miskin
Rotary Mock Interviews

Once again the school, in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Home Hill, will be conducting Mock Interviews for students in years 10, 11 and 12 who wish to take part. If you are likely to be seeking a job, an apprenticeship or traineeship or scholarship in the near future a “Mock Interview” will help prepare you and give you confidence for the real experience.

If you wish to take part in this worthwhile experience, you need to put your name on the list in the general office together with your chosen vocational area. If you intend to go to a university or TAFE, then you can apply for a scholarship (even a hypothetical one) to help you through your studies.

Registrations have closed but if you would like to take part in this worthwhile experience then you can still register at the office by October 14. The interviews will take place on Wednesday 23 October.

An information kit will be available from the office when you register.

Student Resource Scheme (SRS)

Parents and Carers would know this as our Textbook and Resource Hire Scheme and it is the scheme designed to help provide resources that students use in the classroom. The scheme is designed to reduce the overall costs for parents and carers as the school purchases a range of resources otherwise purchased individually. For example, a range of textbooks are purchased by the school and used by students whose families have signed up to the scheme. The textbooks are used from year to year, hence reducing the outlays for parents. The scheme also is extremely convenient for parents and carers, as the school accepts the responsibility of sourcing, maintaining and renewing resources.

The scheme covers a wide range of things including textbooks, class sets of resources, photocopied sheets, etc. Schools all over Queensland have such schemes, and they have proven their value and convenience for thousands of students over many years. For 2014, the Resource Scheme costs will be $90 for Years 8, 9 and 10, and $75 for Year 11 and 12. This is an increase of $30 from last year, but includes the cost of the Student Planner (approximately $10) which will form a critical part of our learning process in 2014. Essentially, it is hard to find Student Resource Scheme fees as low as ours and this means that we have been in ‘maintenance mode’ for some time with many of our resources. To give you some idea of other SRS cost in other schools, here are a few:

Ayr SHS: Year 8,9,10: $145 Year 11,12: $175
Bowen SHS: All Years: $200
Caloundra SHS: All Years: $280

More research reveals that these schools listed are on the lower end of the scale, and certainly compared to private schools, our scheme is extremely good value for money. However, we need to ensure the best resources for your students, hence the review of the fees. This increase was endorsed at the September Parents and Citizens meeting, where the system was fully explained. Parents and Carers wishing to discuss any issue with the SRS are invited to contact me or the Business Services Manager, Mrs Santacaterina. The SRS is an invaluable part of providing quality resources to our students.

Steven Miskin
Principal
NAPLAN

Home Hill SHS has done very well on the Year 9 NAPLAN results, with our students continuing to perform well. Overall, our students had higher numerical means in every strand (Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation, Numeracy) compared to both Like and State Schools. On a statistical level, we were identified as “above” Like Schools in Reading, Writing and Spelling, and “similar” to Like, State and National schools. This is very pleasing, and congratulations to the students and our teachers who have worked very hard on these critical elements. The best news is about our girls – they have achieved outstanding results being statistically ‘above’ in all strands compared to Like and State Schools, and statistically ‘above’ the nation in Writing and Spelling (with their numeric means in the other strands higher than nation). The only down side is that our boys have not matched the girls’ standard and I have spoken to the boys about the need to lift, particularly in the literacy areas. I ask parents of our boys to encourage them to spend more time reading, and to take the time on editing and writing assignments. We are very conscious of this issue and will continue to work hard at lifting all standards. Our very simple goal is to be above the Nation in all strands in every year. Once again, well done year 9s!

Steven Miskin
Principal

Hi all and welcome back from holidays. Last term was my first term in my new official capacity. Until then I was only in the acting role, but Queensland Health has finally appointed the position to me after quite a long time. This has meant that I have been very busy this term getting things sorted out again. We need more support to get all of the health messages to our students.

Over the last term, I have run in conjunction with Ollie Henaway, several lunch time sessions for the students. This has been on various subjects as Sexual Health and Awareness, Nutrition and also Drug and alcohol Awareness and safety. These have been very popular with the students and they have packed out our little room.

We will have a very busy final term for the year. I can’t believe the year is nearly over, especially for the year 12 students who will be with us for a few more weeks. I hope they achieve their many and varied goals in life. We have the “Choices” program for them to attend in the second week back. This was enjoyed by the seniors last year. There will be information given to them to keep them all safe over “Schoolies” week.

The first week back we will have Mental Health Week. I will be running different sessions for students and staff over the week. I would like to thanks the ladies in the library who have done up a fantastic display for me.

The second week is Nutrition week and we will be looking for student to enter the competitions for the school. There are some amazing prizes to be won.

If anyone would like to speak to me in regards to supporting your child, please do not hesitate to call me at school on Wednesday and Thursday. If you have any concerns or would like me to talk to them on any health related issue, please contact me.

LEAH GEORGE
Get SET for the Future Program for Year 10 students

As part of our school curriculum each student in year 10 is required to complete a Senior Education and Training Plan (SET) Plan. As part of their SET lesson year 10 students have prepared their initial SET Plan. This was done in term 2.

A SET Plan details a student’s academic progress, highlights their short and long term goals, and their career aspirations. The SET Plan is a confidential document, negotiated between the student, parents and the school. The completion of this document and interviews with students, their parents/caregivers and school has been mandated by the Queensland Government. SET Plans are reviewed each year in the senior school.

Year 10 students are currently selecting subjects for year 11 and it is important we discuss with both the student and the parent/caregiver the subjects chosen for 2014 as well as the student’s SET Plan. For this reason we have set aside two days, October 21 and 22 to discuss details of the SET Plan with the student and the parent/caregiver and to make final decisions about their 2014 subject choices. This interview is compulsory and is a requirement for enrolment into year 11 in 2014.

Details for this interview are as follows:-

- Each student must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver for the interview;
- Parents are able to book their preferred interview time by telephoning the school and booking through the administration. We anticipate that interviews will take no more than 30 minutes.
- Interviews will be conducted in the administration building by the Principal, Deputy Principal and the three Heads of Department.
- Interview times are:
  (i) Monday, 21 October – 9:00am to 6:00pm
  (ii) Tuesday, 22 October – 9:00am to 6:00pm

If parents are unable to attend interviews on these days, it will be possible to make alternative arrangements, but we do hope all interviews can be held on these days.

A letter has been sent home this week to the parent/caregiver of all year 10 students asking them to phone the school to book an interview time.

As students begin their final transition into year 11, I am sure you’ll agree that getting SET for the future is important. During year 11 and 12 the SET Plans will be reviewed and updated.

Steve Buttsworth
Deputy Principal

Open Invitation

All parents, caregivers and friends of the school community are invited to attend the Home Hill State High School Awards Night Ceremonies.

Sports Awards
7.30pm
Tuesday 22 October
Home Hill Greek Hall

Academic Awards
7.45pm
Tuesday 29 October
Home Hill Memorial Hall

Please join us in celebrating the achievements of our students.
HOME HILL STATE HIGH ACCOUNTING STUDENT
A STATE WINNER

In May of this year 15 students sat for the 2013 Australian Business Studies (Accounting) Competition conducted by the University of New South Wales. Annually approximately 10,000 students across Australia participate in the competition which involves students sitting a 50 minute exam. While all of the students achieved good results, one student excelled. Amos Lipsys was awarded a Certificate of High Distinction and the title of Queensland State Winner in the senior division. In addition to receiving the trophy, Amos received a cheque for $200.

Also receiving a High Distinction and a cheque for $50 was year 11 student Alanna Lazzarini. Congratulations to all of the students for their participation.

Mrs Gall

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<th>High Distinction</th>
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<td>Alanna Lazzarini</td>
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State winner of the Accounting Competition
Amos Lipsys with Mrs Gall and Mr Miskin
Students Excel in Mathematics Competition

The Australian Mathematics Competition 2013 has brought great success to students of Home Hill State High School. Half of those who competed received upper level awards. Eight achieved distinctions, twenty three were awarded with credits and two received proficiency awards. These students are listed below in order of merit.

**Year 8**

**Credits:** Mitchell Price-Wilson, Jared Thorley, Lilly Woodlock and Nikita Fabian.

**Proficiency awards:** Erin Grimbaldeston and Elena Postma.

**Year 9**

**Distinction:** Mikayla Wall. She was placed in the top 2% of competitors.
**Credits:** Patrick Ryan, Sam Marano, Andi Gelling, Emily Gibson and Molly Swindley.

**Year 10**

**Distinctions:** Gina Papale (top 3%), Daniel Zamperoni (top 9%) and Christina Postma

**Credits:** Ben Walters, Ryan Attard, Matilda Benz, Druce Becke and Rachel Marano.

**Year 11 Distinctions:** Ashley Wood and Katelyn Shepherd

**Credits:** Caleb Brennan, Reece D’Alessandro, Genai Devenna, Jackson Dahlenburg, and Callan Sunderland

**Year 12 Distinctions:** Amos Lipsys (top 9%) and Rachael Becke

**Credits:** Mark Barbagallo, Ashley Attard, Nicoline Thomson and Bradley Sibson.

I would like to congratulate every student who participated in this very difficult competition. I was very proud of the effort and concentration you exhibited on the day. I would also like to thank our P&C who generously financed the entry fees. Your support is outstanding. Without your help our students would not get the chance to demonstrate their abilities.

Robert Lipsys

SAC – Mathematics

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**Year 10, 11 and 12 SET Plans and learning Accounts available on-line**

Year 10, 11 and 12 students are able to view their Senior Education and Training (SET) Plan at home by logging onto the OneSchool website and using their school log-in and password. Every student in years 10, 11 and 12 should have a SET Plan completed. It should be reviewed each year. The OneSchool website is: [www.oslp.eq.edu.au](http://www.oslp.eq.edu.au)

Every year 10, 11 and 12 students should also be able to view their Learning Account at home by logging onto the Student Connect website and using their Learner Unique Identification (LUI) number and password. This is a password the student set specifically for this website. Every student in years 10, 11 and 12 should have opened their Learning Account with Mr Buttsworth. Any student who cannot access their Learning Account should see Mr Buttsworth for assistance. The Student Connect website is: [www.studentconnect.qsa.qld.edu.au/](http://www.studentconnect.qsa.qld.edu.au/).
WORK EXPERIENCE 2013

This year 105 of our years 10, 11 and 12 students participated in our work experience program. The program gives our senior students the opportunity to learn workplace skills and to help them decide on possible future career paths. There was a wide range of occupations for students to sample – nursing, engineering, childcare, fitter and turner, vet assistant, hospitality, retail, mechanic, accountant, optometrist, station hand, electrician, boilermaker, beautician, florist, and a host of other careers as well. Thank you to the many employers and their staff who provide valuable on-the-site training for our students during the week.
Ten Strategies for Raising Teens
Below is a really good checklist I discovered. It is written by Michael Grose, Australia’s leading parenting educator. Visit his website at www.parentingideas.com.au for more free parenting ideas and tools. You can also subscribe to his parenting ideas blogs which will keep you up-to-date and inspired with regular informative articles in your inbox for free!

1. Hand over power and responsibility to teenagers.
   Essentially our job as parents is to make ourselves redundant. This means we let young people take increasing responsibility for their own well-being. It means they increasingly make decisions for themselves however, they need to experience the consequences of their choices so they can improve and adjust their decisions and behaviour accordingly.

2. Set limits for identity formation (as well as safety).
   When your young person was small you set limits and boundaries to keep him or her safe and also to teach him about the rights of others. Now that you have an adolescent the purpose of limits has broadened to include identity formation. He or she is trying to work out who the hell they are, and what are they capable of doing. This identity formation involves an element of risk, but needs to occur within an open field of choices. A young person sorts through choices, tries a few and embraces some.

3. Use choices and consequences like a good cop.
   The key to using choices and consequences effectively is to use them like a good cop, not a bad or rude cop. Be calm, be pleasant, and be dispassionate when you use them. You want young people to be mad at themselves, not at you. If you are angry or implement consequences in a vindictive manner young people will more than likely be angry with you, not themselves.

4. Use a problem-solving approach individually.
   One way of dealing with teenagers is using a problem-solving approach. That is, you state the rule: “I need you home safely by…….o’clock.” And then follow up saying, “Let’s come up with some ways to make this work for you and me.” Then generate some ideas and pick a solution and try it. Talk in a week or two to see if it is working.

5. Mess with their minds – use facts, not scare tactics.
   Generation Y’s live in each other’s pockets and they tend to reflect each other’s views, which are often narrow and lack some historical perspective. It is useful then for older generations to let their views be known to provide Gen whY’s with a different perspective. It needs to be done in a way that is not self indulgent and that doesn’t lecture - with tact and guile.

6. Communicate as if you are going for a job interview.
   A professional communicator doesn’t need to have all the answers. They are confident enough to admit that they don’t know and they allow themselves some time to figure out a better response. A professional communicator knows that remaining calm, choosing words carefully or deferring decisions means that they are more likely to be listened to, and that they will make safer decisions.

7. Choose your battles wisely – don’t sweat the small stuff!
   The trick to living cooperatively with teenagers is not to fight with them over the minor events. It is easy to become caught up in battles over relatively inconsequential issues such as bedroom tidiness and appearance, or school uniforms, which are inconsequential in the broader scheme of life. The trouble with sweating over the small stuff is that relationships are damaged with young people over issues of relatively little importance. It also drains energy away so that when there really is a need to hold some ground over an important issue such as a young person coming home at a reasonable time from a party there is just nothing left to fight with.

8. Open the door to mentors and the wider community.
   It is not uncommon for today’s young to have very limited access to extended family members. In more traditional societies, it was the extended family, rather than parents that helped young people make the transition to adulthood. The great challenge for all adults, whether parents or broader community, is to engage with young people in ways that are meaningful, challenging and relevant. We can use artificial means such as providing mentors, which are uncle and aunty substitutes or just make a concerted effort to encourage them to interact with other generations.
9. Talk to other parents.
It is also helpful to talk with other parents to find out if your teenager’s behaviour is normal and within the realms of acceptability. It just helps sometimes to check with parents of teenagers of the same age. Find out about the issues that they may be dealing with.

10. Don’t let them drop out of the family.
Spending time in bedrooms is just one way young people can drop out of their family. Refusing to attend family functions, celebrations or even mealtimes are also common ways of dropping out. It is useful for parents to negotiate with young people about the types of events that young people are expected to attend and those that they can pass by. It is helpful to know which events are negotiable and which are non-negotiable. Young people risk falling through the cracks when they remove themselves from family-life. Strong families work out ways for its members to stay in touch on a regular basis that suits everyone.

Chappie Jennie

During LPC Week, all students in the school were involved in activities which enhance the curriculum and promote Home Hill State High School’s three key elements of Learning, Performance and Citizenship. These activities are not only extremely valuable educationally; they encourage students to excel in what they do, while developing positive attitudes. These activities ranged in application from being purely theory based; to being very hands-on, or practical.

Every area of the year 8s course of study was addressed during this week. Parents were invited to the Welcome BBQ, where students applied skills learnt during Home Economics which included serving and politely socialising with a diverse group of people.

Many other subjects conducted learning episodes both on and off the school campus. These included some of the following: sushi making in Japanese, circus related activity training in Drama with mentors from the Townsville based company La Luna, hybrid sport lessons in HPE, an excursion to Burdekin Delta Cinema in Ayr to watch Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters for English, creating a time capsule in SOSE, exploring multi-media programs in ICT, enjoying ‘Science and Engineering’ style team building activities in Science, solving problems in the annual Maths competition, relaxing and appreciating a quiet read in the library with RIBIT, applying manga drawing and knot tying skills in Art as well as designing dwellings of the future in ITD; just to name a few.

A heart felt thank you to all of the parents who took an interest and attended events held during this week as well as a deserved thank you to the many people who pitched in and made the week fun, relevant and run smoothly.
A small and definitely eager group of year 9 students, staff and parents left the school early on Sunday morning and headed for the Collinsville Sports Fishing Club, part of the Sibson cattle property. The annual trek south for the year 9 camp had begun... five nights of sleeping in tents, cooking over an open fire and being without the creature comforts of air-conditioning, and mobile phone reception. There was at least hot showers heated by the ‘donkey’ and the view of the sky was an experience.

Everyone tried their hand at abseiling, archery, low ropes, orienteering and the dreaded overnight hike! It did not rain as happened last year so Mrs Williams remained dry much to her satisfaction. The water activities were enjoyed by those who felt the need to cool down from the heat of the day and remove the layer of dust. Miss Horan’s improvised game of ‘beach touch football’ was a highlight especially for those throwing the wet sponges! Both Mr Miskin and Mrs Edwards enjoyed using the fire hose to wet everybody. Overall, a great time was had by all who attended.

Thanks must go to parents Gavin Neal, Richard Wall, Doug McCubben and Peter Gibson for their collecting of fire wood, pumping up the tank and making sure we had hot water for our showers.
CIVICS, CITIZENSHIP & PHYSICAL EDUCATION TOUR 2013

On Saturday 14 September, 20 senior students were accompanied by Mrs Kerr, Miss Murphy and Mr Chris Becke to New South Wales and the ACT on the annual Civics, Citizenship & Physical Education Tour. As always, the excitement was tinged with a little apprehension for both parents and students as this was a first for many. Whether it was the first time away from family, first time on a plane, first time in a big city or simply the first time to the snow, there was a lot to look forward to.

An integral part of our tour is a visit to our nation’s capital, Canberra. The Australian Government recognises the value of young Australians being able to visit their nation’s capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. The PACER (Parliament and Civics Education Rebate) program kindly assists with meeting the travel costs incurred, with a contribution of $120 per student to subsidise travel costs. The students and the school would like to thank the PACER program for facilitating this part their education.

This year we visited a number of interesting venues including Old Parliament House, New Parliament House, the War Memorial and the Australian Institute of Sport. At Old Parliament House, we participated in a fantastic interactive small-group activity as part of the tour. Through it, we discovered important facts, dates and Australian identities that have helped to shape the Democracy we enjoy today. The activity had students moving back and forward between interactive screens and interesting displays explaining the development of democracy in Australia, which helped to bring the Museum of Democracy alive. Students were also able to contrast the architecture and different symbolism between the two Parliaments, highlighting our evolving relationship with Great Britain. While in the House of Representatives, Ms Murphy donned a wig and gown to play the role of Speaker of the House in a mock historical debate over the proposed Bill to introduce conscription. It was definitely an interesting look!

At New Parliament House, students were able to see where the laws and decisions of government are made. This was again brought to life for our students through a mock Bill proposal. Our second attempt at Parliamentary debate was positioned in the House of Representatives. The students chose to again debate the proposal of conscription in today’s society and what this could mean. The result was a very heated argument between Prime Minister, Courtney Woods and Leader of the Opposition, Chris Becke. The Independents carried the balance of power and wielded it to vote down the Bill. Students enjoyed a guided tour of The Senate and the House of Representatives, The Great Hall and the gallery of portraits of ex-Prime Ministers.
At the War Memorial, students were able to look up relatives who represented our country in conflict, experience a night- bombing raid, see the bridge of a warship, read accounts and letters home from diggers in action and see the vast collection of memorabilia and artefacts from wars and conflicts over the last 150 years. This year, a poignant addition to the displays was the Afghanistan Hall. Here students were able to watch and listen to moving stories and tributes to comrades, family and friends of recently killed or injured soldiers in this conflict. The link between our students and those who fought and died for our country was made all the more intimate when we realised that many of the accounts described individuals of a similar age with the group. This was an interesting and, at times, a sobering experience for the students.

Our next visit was to the Australian Institute of Sport where we participated in the interactive Sport Room, testing our abilities, viewing Australian team uniforms and memorabilia and ‘measuring up’ against past athletes. We were also taken on a tour of the Institute to see and hear about the amazing resources athletes have available to them. The weights gym and the pool drew the most envy from students and more than one would relish the opportunity to have a go on the new gymnastics apparatus when completed!

Sydney was next on the agenda and Saturday was devoted to shopping and sight-seeing in the city. The Markets were a real eye-opener with many students bartering effectively to get some great deals. Unfortunately on the bus trip from Sydney to Jindabyne we caught the dying minutes of the Cowboys final against Cronulla and the entire bus mourned the missed opportunity to catch the Cowboys in the next stage of the finals on the following Saturday in Sydney. Instead we watched an action packed movie White House Down, followed by all you can eat pizza.

Taronga Zoo on Sunday was our final official activity. We saw animals from around the world ranging from the familiar (crocodiles and snakes) to the exotic (snow leopards and pigmy hippos). The seal show and open-air bird show were both well worth the visit alone, but the opportunity to see such a wide range of animals made the visit truly entertaining and educational. The most impressive seal in the Seal Show was one named after a great teacher and he was called “Murphy”. He was able to jump the highest and swim the fastest!

A Japanese Tepanyaki Restaurant by the name of Ichi Ban provided the right mix of theatre and food on Sunday night. The expertise of the Japanese chefs was truly amazing as they chopped, sliced, seasoned and flung food for our entertainment. The delivery of egg rolls and fried rice will never feel the same again.

It was time to head to the snow. The 2013 snow season was not the best on record but with late falls of snow predicted, everyone was still excited. We experienced everything from hot, clear weather on the first day to two days of freezing, drizzling rain, and as we kept telling the students if this would only drop a degree or two we would have snow. And that we did with a magnificent fall of 11cm on the second last night! This produced some truly excellent conditions for skiing and great photo opportunities on the way up the mountain. Despite many stacks, bumps and bruises, the professional lessons every day quickly improved our skills and we experienced heaps of different terrain around the Blue Cow and Perisher Ski Resorts. By the end of our skiing time, there were many who didn’t want to leave.

The Civics, Citizen & Physical Education Tour is a fantastic opportunity for students to see and take part in a wonderful variety of new experiences. Students have the ability to achieve such a large number of ‘firsts’ in a safe and supportive atmosphere. As the trip was a first for me, it was a wonderful experience and I know many students will take away many valuable memories. Thanks must go to Mrs Kerr, who is always so instrumental in the organisation of the trip and to Mr Becke who was an important addition to the group. Thanks must also go to the students who made the trip the success it was. I am proud to be associated with you. Your attitude, behaviour and participation certainly epitomize the values of our school.

Miss Allyce Murphy
Reading through the local papers one day I noticed an advertisement for young people interested in joining in the Young Endeavour Experience and decided to apply. My application obviously met with approval as I received a letter telling me that I had been accepted and that I would be joining other young people from all over Australia, sailing on the leg from Sydney to Melbourne.

Friday 30 August saw me arriving at the Tall Ship – Endeavour which was docked at the Woolamooloo Naval Base. There I met the 23 students who, like me, were part of the youth group who would join the nine crew members who were the regular staff on board the Endeavour.

After the tour of the ship and a workplace safety induction, we sailed out of the Naval Base and into Sydney Harbour where we anchored just near Taronga Park Zoo. Our first night on board the Endeavour, anchored as we were in Sydney Harbour, was amazing. Over those first few days we learnt basic rope handling and how to climb up on to the upper levels of the ship.

There were many highlights on the voyage. Getting to know the other students, climbing aloft while out at sea and watching the dolphins, seals and a whale that passed by, anchoring at some of the small towns along the coast line, rope races and the amazing sunrises over the ocean, are all experiences I will not forget.

Our last anchorage was at Rye. Here we elected a captain, sail master, navigator, watch officers, watch leaders and chefs from amongst the youth group. Our final challenge would be to take over the running of the Endeavour for our trip into Melbourne.

We arrived in Melbourne at 7am and the view was outstanding. We were greeted by hot air balloons, and we met up with the other tall ships that were taking part in the Tall Ships Festival. I was overwhelmed by the number of people who were waiting to see us anchor. Over the two days we were anchored at Melbourne we had many tourists come on board the Endeavour and we also took a group of disabled young people for a half day sail. We also dressed in period costumes and did a drama performance for the tourists.

My experience on the Young Endeavour has been one I will never forget, and I urge all young people between the ages of 16 and 23 to consider applying for a place on board the ship next time it sails.

In Term 3 students in Grade 9 SOSE at Home Hill State High School were given a challenge. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. In their unit of work on Human Hazards, they had looked at issues such as climate change and pollution, which are influenced by the actions of human beings and which are placing the planet in potential peril. As part of this they looked more closely at the issue of how we manage our waste and how we could take the pressure off landfill sites and the environment by recycling some of the products that would normally end up there. As part of their assessment their challenge was to create something new from something old, using recycled materials.

Students amazed their peers and teachers with some wonderful, creative designs for everything from seats to mirrors to lamps. Ms Amaya Danello, owner and manager of Raw Emporium in Young Street, Ayr, was so impressed that she offered to put some of the students’ assignments on display in her shop. Like the students’ assignments, many of the items in her shop are something new created from something old, or recycled. So over the holidays, students and their proud parents have been able to wander past Raw Emporium, just opposite the post office and next door to The Lighthouse, to see their students’ designs in the Home Hill State High School display in the front window.

Many thanks must go to Ms Danello and Mrs Eathorne for organising the display.
Japanese Food Delights!

In two special classes during term three, the Year 8 Japanese students had the opportunity to taste a variety of Japanese food such as Umeboshi (pickled plum), Natto (fermented soy beans), Osenbei (Japanese rice crackers) and Wasabi (horse radish). Wasabi in particular is very spicy and strong, but some of the students were very brave and gave it a try!

During LPC week, a special sushi making class was held where the Year 8 students were able to make their very own sushi! There were lots of different styles of Sushi made, from traditional to more exciting, and a great time was had by all. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following parents and teachers whose help made the Sushi class possible: Mrs Cerqui, Ms Piliouras and Ms Wiles for letting us borrow their rice cookers, Mrs Cannavan and Mrs Ramsden for joining the class and teachers Ms Clark, Ms Hedgcock, Mr Jackson, Ms Lewty, Mr Lipsys, Ms Mavanna, Miss Nicholson, Mrs Tounzou and Mr Martin for supervising. Because of everyone’s help, the students were able to have a wonderful time! Arigatou gozai masu! (Thank you very much!)

SCARTWATER EDUCATION TRUST

SCARTWATER AND CUNNINGHAM SCHOLARSHIPS - 2014

The Board Members of the Scartwater Trust are pleased to advise that once again applications are sought for both Scartwater and Cunningham Scholarships for 2014.

The Scartwater Area, broadly defined, runs from Proserpine to Innisfail and back to the Western border.

The Scartwater Scholarship will be awarded upon the results obtained in year 10 and is designed to assist a student to continue full time studies through years 11 & 12. The allowance presently payable under the scholarship is $1000.00 per annum. Terms and conditions in relation to the scholarship are available at the school office.

The Cunningham Scholarship will be awarded upon the results obtained in years 11 and 12 and are designed to enable a student to undertake full time studies in an approved Tertiary course at an approved University. The allowance presently payable under the Scholarship is $2000.00 per annum. Terms and Conditions in relation to the Scholarship are available at the school office.

“Scholarships are awarded to assist children and grandchildren of eligible returned Servicemen and Women who had overseas active service with the Australian Defence Forces in all theatres and who enlisted from or who resided in the defined Scartwater Area immediately prior to enlistment and in addition, those Returned Servicemen and Women who now permanently reside within the Scartwater Area and have done so for no less than 15 years.”

The amended criteria will now include the children and grandchildren of veterans residing within the Scartwater Area for no less than 15 years, who previously did not meet the eligibility aspect of “enlisting from or residing in immediately prior to enlistment.”

Applications must be forwarded to the Secretary by 30 November at the address below.

Secretary
Scartwater Trust
48 Glendale Dv.
Annandale Q 4814

Telephone (07) 46 573871
Mobile 0428 334720 (Please leave message if not answered)
Email: geoffreyw@skymesh.com.au
BREAKFAST IS SERVED!
Dee-Anne and Michelle in the tuckshop have introduced a breakfast menu which is available every day except for Tuesday. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day and gives students the energy they need to work hard in those first lessons before morning tea.

Breakfast Menu
Milo $1
Juice $1
Toast, cinnamon toast, raisin toast (2 slices) $1

PRE-ORDERING SYSTEM NOW AVAILABLE
The tuckshop will also be introducing a pre-ordering system at the start of Term 4. Students can take their money to the tuckshop in the mornings and order their items. At lunch time there will be a queue for pre-paid students so they can pick up their lunches. Not only does this save you time, by pre-ordering you can be sure that you will get what you want for lunch! Limited quantities of food items will still be available for those students who do not want to pre-order.

DEWEY RAP 2013

Year 8 SET classes have spent some time learning about the Dewey Decimal System which classifies non-fiction books in Libraries. To assist with the recall and understanding of the 10 knowledge groups, students prepared and performed the ‘Dewey Rap’ before an expert panel of judges, including Le-Foo (School Health Nurse, Leah George), Bo-Diddy (Groundsman, Alec Bojack), Styles Dog (Janitor, Allan Styles) and Snoop (Deputy Principal, Steve Buttsworth).

Winning groups were:

8A
1st – ‘Da Yondas’ - Zane Poli, Paul Marano, Rory Heatley, Julian Falco, Jared Thorley and Tully Anderson.
2nd – ‘The Mathletes’ – Nikola Poli and Karli Linton
3rd – ‘CEEN’ – Naomi Loizou, Emily Cannavan, Efimia Loizou, Catania Musumeci

8B
2nd – ‘The Crew’ – Rhiannon Nascone, Eilish Farris, Lakisha Barba, Brielle West and Travis Asa-Stokes

Thank you to our special judges for their encouraging words, and at times strange accents.

Congratulations to all participants, and to the winning groups who received their pick of the Library Prize box.

Lisa Todeschino
Teacher-Librarian
State Science and Engineering Super Challenge

Building a load-bearing bridge out of balsa wood, masking tape, thumb tacks and coffee stirrers would challenge the most experienced engineer, but that was one of the tasks presented to Home Hill State High students at the State Science and Engineering Challenge.

The Science and Engineering Challenge is a nation-wide outreach program led by the University of Newcastle in conjunction with Rotary Clubs and other partners and sponsors across Australia for challenges held throughout the year. The Science and Engineering Challenge is designed to inspire students to study science and engineering at a senior level. Through a day of fun and teamwork, students undertake a series of hands-on activities designed to challenge them in the practical elements of science and engineering.

More than 500 of the best science students in the state converged on the James Cook University Townsville campus on the 11-13 September for the 2013 Queensland Science and Engineering Super Challenge. The eighteen schools competing had previously won their regional finals with Home Hill State High School achieving an amazing seventh consecutive win as North Queensland Champions. Students from the eighteen schools pitched their skills against each other across three days of competition.

They provided solutions to problems such as constructing an earthquake proof building, designing a catapult capable of throwing a ball over a great distance and building an “Eco-friendly” home from low-cost material. The students navigated through eight stations and were given few materials to work with.

Each of the eight stations had an instruction sheet and outlined the scenario, aim, guidelines, point system and helpful tips for students to follow. Minimum resources and materials were provided for students to use. These plus the students' skills and ingenuity resulted in some amazing designs and solutions.

Throughout the day, the students’ spirits were dampened as progressive scores were announced. It didn’t seem as though the day was going to end well. Prior to the last event Home Hill State High School were coming third out of the six schools. The excitement in the room was built as the final constructions were tested. Would the Home Hill State High bridge withstand the “Bridge Buster”? Unfortunately it didn’t, however it was able to carry a very heavy load and due to the lightness of materials used to construct it, it scored well in points. When the final scores were announced, Home Hill State High School was announced winner for the day.

Unfortunately, St Joseph’s Nudgee College were announced the State Champions as they achieved greater points on the previous day and earned their spot in the National final in Lismore. Brisbane Bay College also edged out Home Hill State High School by only 17 points.

The Home Hill State High School Science and Engineering students were place third overall in the state! A fantastic achievement for such a small school. The school and community are certainly proud of the students’ achievement.