



Home Hill State High School

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Newsletter February 2015



Principal's Report

Welcome back! The start of this new school year is even more special than usual with the commencement of both Year 7 and 8 into high school at the same time. The preparation for the arrival of Year 7s has been long and thorough and we are ready for this exciting new chapter of what is a long and proud history of this great school. Our first week with the new group has been outstanding, with keen learners well and truly ready for high school.

We have had a number of staff changes, and we welcome the following staff:

Mrs Adele Armstrong (Junior Secondary), Mr Tom Lane (Junior Secondary), Mr Justin Muldoon (Manual Arts), Dr Lauren Young (Science), Mr Justin Wade (HPE), Mrs Anna Bugeja (Social Science), Mrs Sally Pirie (Junior Secondary) and Mrs Sarah Shaw (Guidance Officer).

This year we are again strongly focused on continuing to improve student learning outcomes – we have a strong record of achievement but we are always looking for ways to do even better. Really, what makes us great is our commitment to our three pillars – Learning, Performance and Citizenship. We use these as a guide to ensure we are on track to deliver the best instruction, that we work with students to maximise their achievement and we develop positive citizenship in our most valuable assets – our students.

If everything is working well, then we are living up to our motto “Finis Coronat Opus” or “The End Crowns the Work”. This means that for us and our students, if we put the work in, the rewards will be there in the end. A noble ideal which reminds us all of why we are here – to enable success for every child for their future.

This year, our focus elements are:

- Reading
- Instructional coaching and mentoring (for teachers)
- High achiever talent development
- Junior Secondary implementation
- Structured Well-Being program Year 7 to 12

I look forward to working closely with parents and carers again this year. I encourage you to be actively involved in our school and with your child's education. At any time you have questions or concerns, please contact your child's teachers or the office. You may also contact the “Line Managers” of the different year levels and this year, they are: Year 11&12 (Mr Stephen Buttsworth), Year 10 (Mrs Ros Gall), Year 9 (Mr Rob Scalia), Year 8 (Ms Louise Clark) and Year 7 is myself.

All the best for a wonderful year

Steven Miskin
Principal

Next P&C Meeting

The **February** meeting of the P&C will be held **Tuesday, 10 February** at 7.45 pm in the Staff Common Room. All are welcome to attend.

Dates to Remember

- **3-6 February**
– Year 12 Camp
- **Thursday 19 February**
– Leaders' Investiture
HH Memorial Hall
- **Friday 27 February**
– Swimming Carnival

Our school acknowledges the Juru Community as the first owners of this country. Today, they are still the custodians of the cultural heritage of this land. Further to this, our school acknowledges there are other Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and South Sea Island people have lived, worked and contributed to the cultural heritage of our community.



Academic Awards at Annual Presentation of Awards (Requirements)

Student academic achievement in subjects studied will be recognised at the school's Annual Presentation of Awards which is held in October each year. Students who achieve high standards academically and meet a range of criteria receive Academic Awards. Those students who demonstrate high levels of commitment and industry in class but are ineligible for Academic Awards may receive a Teachers' Award.

Academic Awards:

To be eligible for an Academic Award students must demonstrate achievement over a range of subjects. These awards fall into three categories. The minimum requirements for each are described below.

LEVEL 1 AWARDS	The student will attain As in four subjects and B+ in one additional subject.
LEVEL 2 AWARDS	The student will attain As in three subjects and B+ in one additional subject.
LEVEL 3 AWARDS	The student will attain As in two subjects and B+ in one additional subject. If the student is in years 11 or 12 then the minimum requirement is Bs in four subjects.

Teachers' Awards:

To be eligible for a Teachers' Award a student must demonstrate an excellent standard in commitment to doing his/her best in subjects and demonstrate consistent industry in class and completion of set tasks including class work, bookwork, assignments and homework. The students will also be expected to be well-behaved in the classroom displaying cooperation, courtesy, common sense and consideration in their dealings with others. These students must be nominated by five teachers in the Junior School and four teachers in the Senior School and will not be the recipient of an academic award.

Assessment

- i) Assessment instruments will be implemented on the due date unless:
 - a) a variation has been negotiated with the teacher and the Principal
 - b) an extension for an individual student has been granted by the Principal in cases where it has been demonstrated that exceptional circumstances exist (This would normally involve a medical certificate or communication from the parent.)
- ii) If assessment cannot be completed at the time indicated on the calendar, the student must apply for Assessment Consideration.
 - a) Four categories of reason are generally acceptable:
 - Illness (supported by a medical certificate for students in Years 11 and 12)
 - Compassionate
 - School approved/related activities eg NQ sport representation
 - Other – any reasonable situation can be negotiated and treated on individual merit
 - b) Procedure:
 - Student obtains form from office and completes appropriate section **before** the due date unless illness prevents.
 - Student attaches medical certificate / documentation to this form. Parent signs and dates form.
 - Student asks subject teacher to complete teacher section.
 - Student reports to Principal who completes form. Student reports to teacher with completed form.
 - Teacher attaches form to assessment (yr 8, 9 & 10) or retains for records (yr 11 & 12).
- (i) If assessment is not completed at the time indicated and Assessment Consideration does not apply the consequences will be negotiated on an individual basis.

Assessment/Course Planner

Assessment/Course Planners will be issued at the start of each semester. These planners are individualised for each student and lists their subjects only. A week by week program is given so that students and parents can see the topic of study students will be engaging in for each subject, as well as the assessment that students will complete, including tests and due dates for assignments.

An electronic copy is also available through the student's OneSchool site. This can be accessed both at school and at home.

Burdekin Secondary School Sport Association

This year promises, as always, to be a hectic year for Home Hill sporting people.

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|--------|---|---|
| TERM 1 | - | Interhouse Swimming Carnival, (Friday, 27 February)
Rugby League/Netball – round robin games commence
Volleyball |
| TERM 2 | - | Cross Country - Interhouse (Friday, 1 May), Burdekin (Tuesday 12 May), NQ (Tuesday 26 May)
Soccer and Basketball |
| TERM 3 | - | 13 years, 15 years and Open Touch, Rugby 7s
Athletics Carnivals - Interhouse (Friday 7 August), Burdekin (Tuesday 21 August)
NQ (Tuesday 1 September) |
| TERM 4 | - | 15 years Boys Cricket
15 years Girls Softball |

All students will be notified well in advance about these dates and should listen to form notices when these sports become available.

Calculators

It is necessary that each high school student has his/her own scientific calculator so that the student can become familiar with its method of operation. These calculators are used for class work, homework and tests. The Casio FX100AV calculator is recommended for students intending to take Physics or Maths C. The Casio FX82 calculator is suitable for most high school courses. These are recommended models only. Other scientific calculators may also be suitable. The above Casio calculators may be purchased from HOME HILL NEWS. It is advisable to purchase calculators at the start of the year as they are usually discounted.

Graphics Calculators will be used by senior students studying Mathematics A, B and C. It is not necessary to purchase Graphic calculators as these will be on loan from the school. Graphics calculators are expensive items and students are expected to be very careful with them. Lost or damaged calculators will be expected to be paid for.

Committees

The established school committee structure requires community members on various committees. Committee membership consists of school staff, parents and students. The following is a list of vacancies for parent representation. Membership on these committees should not be a particularly onerous task and I encourage you to consider volunteering.

- Student Ball
- Finance
- People to People Tour
- Fete

Please contact the school's general office to nominate for these positions.

Community Education Counsellor (CEC)

The main role of a Community Education Counsellor is to provide a service to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to assist with any concerns they may have about their education. Home Hill High's CEC, Ollie Henaway, assists parents/guardians with issues they may have concerning their child's education and well-being as well as liaising between the school & the Indigenous Community and students & staff.

Support can be provided in a variety of ways:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counselling • Education support • Providing assistance to student, parent/guardian, school staff & community • Involve students in program to help them develop physically, socially & emotionally | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural awareness • Network with other government organisations |
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Ollie is available at Home Hill High School on Tuesday and Thursday morning from 8.00am to 12.30pm. She can be contacted on 4790 5666

Compulsory Schooling Requirements

The requirements of *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* are designed to ensure that all young people are given every opportunity to prepare themselves, through active involvement in education and training, for the world of work and a lifelong contribution to the community. There are two elements to the law: compulsory schooling and the compulsory participation phase.

1. Compulsory schooling

A child is compulsory school age if the child is at least 6 years and 6 months, and less than 16 years. However, a child is no longer of compulsory school age if the child has completed year 10. Each parent of a child who is of compulsory school age must ensure the child is enrolled at a state school or non-state school; and ensure the child attends the state school or non-state school, on every school day, for the educational program in which the child is enrolled, unless the parent has a reasonable excuse.

2. Compulsory participation phase

A young person's compulsory participation phase starts when he/she stops being of compulsory school age (ie. turns 16 or completes year 10 whichever comes first) and ends when the person:

- gains a Senior Certificate, Certificate III or Certificate IV or
- has participated in eligible options for 2 years after the person stopped being of compulsory school age, or
- turns 17.

3. Cancellation of Enrolment

Cancellation of Enrolment may occur if the Principal considered that the behaviour of the student who is older than the *compulsory school age* amounts to a refusal to participate in the educational program provided at the school.

4. Student Learning

Year 10, 11 and 12 students will receive a LUI (Learner Unique Identity) number while in year 10. They will also receive a password to enable them to logon to the Student Connect website www.studentconnect.qsa.qld.edu.au to check personal details and enrolments in their learning account. During SET in years 10, 11 and 12, students will access and check their Learning Accounts.

Corona

The Corona Committee, under the supervision of Dee Musumeci, will be producing the school magazine which will be available for purchase in term four.

The approximate cost for the full colour magazine is \$20.00. *Intention to Order* forms for the Corona will be circulated towards the end of term 4. Payment will be required prior to the issuing of magazine.



Daily Routine

Bell times and lunch breaks are listed below. Please note the major lunch break begins at 11.20am.

Form	8:50am	-	9:00am
Period 1	9:00am	-	10:10am
Period 2	10:10am	-	11.20am
Lunch	11:20am	-	12:10am
Period 3	12:10am	-	1:20pm
Recess	1:20pm	-	1:50pm
Period 4	1:50pm	-	3:00pm

Discos

Students will enjoy the first disco of the year on Tuesday 10 February and will have another in Terms Two (5 May) and Three (28 July). Please take note of policies that apply for school discos.

Policy for Discos:

- Times: 6.30pm – 10.00pm. **No student will be admitted after 7.00pm unless the school/teachers are contacted prior to the disco via written note handed in to Admin office.**
- Attendance: Only students who attend this school may attend. If students have an unexplained absentee on the day of the disco, they will not be permitted to attend.
- Admission: **Cost of admission is \$4.50 in costume or \$5 out of costume.**
- Dress: Students must wear modest dress.
- Behaviour: As it is a school function the behaviour of students must be beyond reproach e.g. all aspects of the school's Code of Behaviour are expected and will be insisted upon. Smoking and alcohol is not permitted. **No chewing gum is to be taken into hall. Drinks to be consumed away from dance area. No student to enter kitchen of Greek Hall. Accessories should be limited to a wallet/purse. No handbags or backpacks will be allowed.**
- Supervision: Teacher and police supervision will be provided for the entire disco. Parents are invited to come along and assist with the supervision.
- Arrival: No students will be permitted to enter the disco before 6.30pm. Students are to be dropped off at front of Greek Hall. **Students are not to walk to or meet at United Service Station prior to or after the event.**
- Closure: The socials will end at 10.00pm sharp. Students are expected to disperse immediately. Parents are asked to be prompt in collecting students at the close of the socials. Students will not be permitted to leave the disco before 10.00pm unless collected by a parent. **A mobile phone call from parent/guardian is not sufficient.**

Guidance

Throughout the year, students visit the Guidance Officer for a variety of reasons. Some of these include advice on subject selection, study skills, time management and goal setting. Students also seek personal counselling or career advice. Ms Sarah Shaw is the school's Guidance Officer and will be available on Wednesday between 8.45am and 3.15pm. Appointments can be made at the school office. Parents are also welcome to make an appointment by phoning the school office.



Instrumental Music Program

Mr Luke Jones is our wonderful Instrumental Music teacher for 2015.

Lessons will occur each Wednesday. Students are encouraged to take advantage of this cultural activity to develop their musical abilities. New students to the school that are interested in music are encouraged to come and see Mr Jones in the room next to the Dining Room in D Block about this wonderful program.

Leaders' Investiture

The 2015 Student Leaders' Investiture will be held at the Burdekin Memorial Hall on Thursday 19 February, at 1.45 pm. A cordial invitation is extended to all parents to attend this ceremony when the school community acknowledges the school's leaders for the year.

Parents and students are reminded that all buses will depart from the Memorial Hall at the usual times, and students will be released from the hall.

Literacy and Numeracy Support

As the Support Teacher – Literacy and Numeracy within Home Hill High School, Mrs Angie Sladden is pleased to provide students with various opportunities for extra assistance in their learning endeavours. Students should consider the value of taking full advantage of these opportunities as they have been designed for positive learning outcomes.

Various forms of support are available. One option is withdrawal from classes, either individually or in small groups, to work on improving literacy and/or numeracy or other devised programs. Another form of support is where both the class teacher and a teacher aide work in the class to facilitate learning.

The provision of additional support as described here, is determined by the school's desire to best cater for students' needs and to improve literacy and numeracy, using the resources available. The provision of extra support will benefit student learning. Mrs Sladden is available at the school for any queries.

Lunch Passes

All requests for lunch passes must be made directly to the Principal using the application form available from the office.

This request must be made by the parent/guardian, not by the student.

Once the initial request has been approved students will be asked to collect and return a form which must be signed by the parent/guardian. Once this is returned a lunch pass may be issued.

Please note: A lunch pass request is for the student to be allowed to go home between 11.20am and 12.05pm for the purpose of having lunch.

- This request does not allow any student to:
 - go into town or to nearby food outlets
 - go to another residence other than home
 - travel without permission in another student's vehicle
- This request does not give permission for the student above to travel home for afternoon recess or during any other time in the school day.
- If a student is cycling home, a helmet must be worn.
- Students are not to drive themselves or others home for lunch.

National Academic Competitions

This school facilitates participation in 4 national academic competitions as summarised in the table below.

Competition	Teacher	Competition Date	Comments
Australian Schools Science Competition	R Scalia	Wednesday 3 June	Open to year 8 – 12 students. Students in Chemistry and Physics usually expected to participate.
Australian National Chemistry Quiz	R Scalia	Thursday 18 June (TBC)	Open to year 8 – 12 students. All year 11 & 12 Chemistry students are expected to participate.
Australian Schools English Competition	L Clark	Tuesday 28 July	Open to year 8 – 12 students. All Junior and Senior students are seriously encouraged to participate.
Australian Mathematics Competition	R Lipsys	Tuesday 11 August	Open to year 8 – 12 students. All year 11 & 12 Maths B students are expected to participate.

Through notices each day in form meeting all students are encouraged to nominate with the relevant teacher. Early nomination is advised.

The P&C Association and individual departments allocate some funds to cover most entry fees for each competition. Once the quota for each quiz is filled, students may have to pay themselves. Entries close at different times for each competition and these times are advertised on notices.

There are five good reasons to participate in one or more of the competitions. Students who are not serious about putting in a concerted effort need not nominate.

- The competitions contain questions which are able to be answered by most students.
- All students receive some acknowledgment of their participation – Results Letter, Certificate of Participation, Awards, etc.
- The results provide additional independent assessment of a student's knowledge.
- Results provide an indication of student's strengths and weaknesses.
- Senior students find it useful as QCS practice.

Newsletters

Newsletters are produced monthly and are distributed just prior to the P&C meetings. P&C meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month. It is intended that the newsletters be given to your children on the Friday before the P&C meeting. Students are instructed that they are to deliver the newsletter to their parents on the day they receive it. Those parents that have elected to have the newsletter emailed will receive it on Friday morning.

Newsletters usually contain reports and photos on school activities for the preceding month, together with date claimers and explanations of any matters of policy or procedure. They are very worthwhile and I encourage you to inquire of their whereabouts if you don't receive one at the beginning of each month.

This particular newsletter features some aspects of the annual calendar, together with some school procedures, in addition to general reports.

P&C Meetings

P&C meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month commencing at 7.45pm in the Common Room at the administration building. I encourage all parents/guardians to attend, as your participation is valued. Reports about school activities and operations are delivered at each meeting. Most meetings take only an hour followed by supper for anyone wishing to stay.

The first P&C meeting for the year will be held **Tuesday, 11 February**. This is NOT the annual general meeting.

P&C Annual General Meeting

The P&C Annual General Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, 10 March** at 7.45pm in the Common Room at the administration building.

Parent – Student Contact

During the school day, parents are to make all contact with students through the office. If parents are to bring items or pass messages on to students, these must be done through the office.

Photos

ID photographs are scheduled for Tuesday, 17 February. All students will go through the process of having their photos taken but it is not compulsory to order one. Most students find the card useful for entry into different venues e.g. the movies and schoolies week. Students should pay at the office by Friday 13 February. Cost to be advised.

Class photos will also be taken on Tuesday, 17 February. Prices for class photos are to be advised. Money can be paid electronically prior to the day or directly to the photographer on the day using an ordering envelope provided by the photographer. The school will not be issuing a receipt.



Publication of Photographs

It has been common practice for photographs of students, teachers, parents and community members to appear in publications such as the school magazine and local newspapers. These photographs include individuals and groups and they record a whole range of student endeavours, for example, sports carnivals, academic achievement, socials and camps.

The publications containing photographs for this school year will include: school website, school newsletters, the Corona, the School Annual Report, the Senior Book and the local newspaper including the annual education supplement that usually appears in the Advocate, and possibly Education Views, Townsville Bulletin and other newspapers.

If you would prefer not to have your son or daughter appear in a photograph would you please advise us by:

- (i) completing the CONSENT form (handed out on day one - or obtain another from the office). The CONSENT form allows you to specify any limitations or restrictions on publications that you wish, or
- (ii) simply writing a letter stating which student(s) is not to be included in which publication(s).

People to People Home-Stay Program

General Information



Each year Home Hill State High may participate in the People to People Home-Stay Program. The People to People Home Stay consists of a two (2)-night stay by American students with Australian families. The event has been a **major form of fund-raising** for the Home Hill State High P&C Association. This year we have not yet had an offer to host in July but we need to have a list of billeting families ready in case an offer is received. Hosting a foreign student is a wonderful educational experience. To be a host family you will need to be a Blue Card holder.



Blue Cards

Throughout the state of Queensland, a working with children check or Blue Card will be required if you participate in a home-stay as it is now compulsory to participate with the Contiki Homestay program. This is also necessary for involvement in any school activity dealing with school activities, eg coaching or transporting students to games and so on.

Home Hill High School P&C Association will facilitate the blue card application process. Host families and their children (over 18 years of age) who participate in the People to People Home-Stay Program are classified as volunteers, and will be required to apply for a **“volunteer blue card”** which will be free of charge and valid for up to 3 years.

As the process for this can take up to 6-8 working weeks, the forms will need to be completed this term. The school will keep a register of those who have applied for these forms through the Home Hill State High School P&C Association. It will not be necessary for those families who already have Blue Cards but we will need to register your card details. The volunteer blue card application **forms need to be obtained from the office** now. Forms and information can also be found on www.cypcg.qld.gov.au/bluecard but must be completed and returned to the office. Please **return these completed forms as soon as possible**.

Reporting

Organised whole-of-school reporting of student progress occurs five times throughout the year as follows:

Mid Semester One	Written report sent in May
Mid Semester One	Parent/teacher interviews to be held in May
End Semester One	Written report issued in July
End Semester One	Parent/teacher interviews to be held in July
End Semester Two	Written report issued in December

Parents will be notified of the exact dates closer to the times. Reporting need not be restricted to these formal occasions. An invitation is extended to all parents/caregivers to obtain a progress report on your child at other times which suit you. To organise this, simply contact the office to arrange an interview. Office staff will then make arrangements on your behalf with the teacher(s) concerned. These additional parent/teacher interviews are held in the administration building.

Resource Centre/ Library

- An atmosphere that is welcoming and conducive to reading, computer work, research, learning and study.
- Extensive range of resources relevant to students, teachers and parents' interests and curriculum requirements. Resources include periodicals (magazines), vertical files, audio-visual materials, laptops, photocopier/printer, audio books, Reference books, Fiction books, Non-Fiction books, books and more books,
- Interesting and inspiring themed displays e.g. Australia Day, ANZAC Day, Education Week.
- An extensive RIBIT (Read In Bed, It's Terrific!) collection for the guaranteed enjoyment of our new Year 8 students.
- Board games and chess sets provide students with the opportunity for quiet play before school and during breaks.
- Access to the courtyard area, for outdoor reading, learning, or game play.
- CME Web access to the Home Hill State High School Library Catalogue and associated resources and databases from anywhere on the planet!

We look forward to igniting your child's imagination and knowledge, through the wonder of books.

School Attendance/Absences

Parents are asked to send notes to school for variations to usual procedures and routines. For example:

- a) Requesting that their student be allowed to leave the school grounds for medical, dental or other short absences. These are to be signed by the administration before period 1 and the information recorded in the attendance record. No other teacher is authorised to grant permission to leave school. Students must sign the attendance book in the office as they leave, and again if they return.
- b) Explaining absenteeism. It is essential that a note be written for each absence. Notes must be dated and signed by parents and presented to the administration before period 1 on the day the student returns to school. A phone call by a parent to the school explaining the student's absence is also acceptable. All absentee notes/phone calls **should** explain a reason for the child's absence eg sickness, dental appointment in Townsville.
- c) Explaining lateness. If a student arrives at school after commencement of form meeting/parade, he/she must provide a note or phone call of explanation, sign the attendance book in the office, and obtain a blue slip from a member of the administration.

School Based Vaccination Program

Coordinated by Queensland Health, the annual School Based Vaccination Program provides secondary school students in Queensland with the opportunity to be protected from a range of diseases.

Year 8 students will be offered one dose of Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine and three doses of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine and one dose of the diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (Whooping Cough) vaccine (dTpa).

All year 10 students will be offered one dose of the diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (whooping cough) (dTpa) vaccine. Year 10 boys will receive three doses of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine if they have not previously received this.

The dates for these vaccinations in 2015 are:

- **11/2/2015** – Yr 8 HPV dose 1 and V2V
- **29/4/2015** – Yr 10: dTpa
- **29/4/2015** – Yr8: HPV dose 2 and dTpa
- **7/10/2015** – Yr 8: HPV dose 3

Letters, information and consent forms have already been distributed to students. If you have not yet received vaccination forms extra copies are available at the school office. The consent forms must be returned to the school office. They will be collected by Qld Health staff prior to the first vaccination date.

The vaccinations will be conducted by a team of specially trained registered nurses and/or a medical practitioner. There is no payment required for this vaccination program.

For more information about diseases, vaccines or the School Based Vaccination Program visit www.health.qld.gov.au

SET/TOP

The SET (Student Education and Training Plan) and the TOP (Tapping Our Potential) lessons are designed to support student wellbeing.

SET is offered in years 10, 11 and 12. TOP is incorporated into HPE in years 7, 8 and 9.

Wellbeing is defined as a sustainable state characterised by predominately positive feelings and attitude, positive relationships at school, resilience, self-optimism and a high level of satisfaction with learning experiences.

Enhanced student wellbeing can contribute to improved academic achievement by increasing student motivation to participate and achieve; student engagement with, and participation in, learning; student attendance; and by decreasing the incidence of problem behaviour at school.

The student planners will be used as part of the SET and TOP programs. Guest speakers will also be invited to talk to students at various times.

School Based Youth Health Nurse Program

Welcome back for another year. I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year. My name is Leah George and I am the School Based Youth Health Nurse at Home Hill High.

The program is a State Government initiative that aims to promote the health and well-being for young people, their families and the whole school community. Young people face a number of challenges – physical, emotional and psychological as they make the transition to adulthood. Puberty, the establishment of relationships, exposure to alcohol, smoking and general risk taking are issues that young people face as they become mature adults.

This is an opportune time to lay the foundations for positive health behaviours and attitudes that will last through their lives. Staying healthy requires knowledge and skill development and it is important that young people have access to accurate information and advice about these changes.

I am a health professional who is available to help young people, parents, school staff and the general community. I provide individual confidential consultations with referral to other services and agencies if necessary, and support whole of school activities that focus on promoting health and well-being.

As the Youth Health Nurse I also help with teaching and learning activities that focus on health and promoting a culture and environment that supports health and well-being.

To make an appointment just come to my room in the student support room and organise a time. I am also available to parents by ringing the school to organise an appointment time or for a chat over the phone. I am at the school on Tuesday and Wednesday.



School Chaplain

Jennie Dowie is our school chaplain for Home Hill State High School. Jennie's role is to provide social, emotional and spiritual support to students, parents and staff of this school. Research shows that there are strong links between positive social and emotional wellbeing for children and young people and their successful life outcomes, including educational ones. Our school is very interested in promoting social and emotional wellbeing in our students and Jennie works alongside other school staff and stakeholders to promote the school's goals in this area. Jennie advances the school's goals of student wellbeing by participating in or facilitating activities that promote a rich

school culture and positive ethos, creating a sense of belonging that leads to positive behaviour and improved student attendance.

Some of the programs Jennie provides for students include: a free weekly lunch club for students and staff, an anger management program; and a girl's self-esteem and self-development group etc. From time to time, Jennie is also able to bring to the school, various guest speakers, bands and other visiting ministries such as YWAM (Youth with a Mission).

Jennie focuses on prevention and support; helping students find a better way to deal with a range of issues from family breakdown, grief, peer pressure and loneliness, to substance abuse, depression and anxiety. She is a listening ear and a caring presence for our kids in crisis, and those who just need a friend. Jennie also offers support for staff and parents in the greater school community.

Jennie has a wealth of experience in working with adolescents. She has been in the role of School Chaplain for over 7 year and prior to this, she spent 11 years doing social work with adolescents for a Government Department. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology, Welfare Studies and Counselling. Chappy Jennie will be working at the school every Monday, Thursday and Friday. Students, staff and parents are free to contact her to discuss any concerns they may have and support they may need.

Student Computers

The school has two main computer rooms as well as a number of mobile laptops labs. Students are able to bring their own laptops to school, and if they agree to participating in the BYOx program, their laptops may be able to be connected to our school network. A brochure with more information about the BYOx program is available through the school admin.

Student Planners

Home Hill SHS students are required to have a student planner. This planner is issued as part of the Student Resource Hire Scheme, and is a critical part of our processes. Students use the planners to put in Homework, Assignment information and details of school activities. Planners are issued in the first week so that students have access to it immediately and start to get used to them.

Parents and carers are encouraged to look at the planner, and we know you will be as impressed as we are with the quality of content in them. We will be using the planners consistently with students, and various sections will form part of lessons delivered to students. Students must bring the planners with them to school each day and be prepared to use them each day. Parents can use the planner as a communication tool with teachers if necessary.

Should a student lose their planner, they must buy a new one from the office for approximately \$12. We know this planner will prove to be a great asset for students, helping them with their organisation.

Tuckshop Ladies Auxiliary Meeting

Our school tuckshop usually runs from Monday to Friday each week with Michelle Donnelly as our convenor, assisted by volunteers.

Once again we are desperate for helpers and will lose tuck shop days if we don't have the help. If you are able to spare 2-3 hours once a month, **please** come along to tuckshop and be involved in your children's school years.

Tuckshop Menu

Breakfast Menu 8:30 – 8:50		
Mon/Wed/Thurs/Friday	Toast (2 slices) Butter/vegemite/ jam/ cinnamon	\$1.00
**Lunch menu available if <u>not</u> pre-ordered		
Monday	Sausage Rolls Beef Traveller Pie Beef Cruiser Pie Beef, Cheese, Bacon Pie	\$2.00 \$3.50 \$3.50 \$4.00
Tuesday	Toasties Turkish Toasted Chicken, Cheese & Pesto Ham, Cheese & Tomato	\$3.00 \$4.00
Wednesday	Chicken Burger Veggie Burger*	\$4.00 \$4.50
Thursday	Ham Burger Veggie Burger*	\$4.50 \$4.50
Friday	Sausage Roll Beef Traveller Pie Beef Cruiser Pie Beef, Cheese & Bacon Pie	\$2.00 \$3.50 \$3.50 \$4.00

**Lunch Menu available every day if pre-ordered before school			
Pizza - Ham & Pineapple	\$2.00	Salad Box	
Lasagne	\$3.00	Chicken/Ham	\$5.00
Spinach & Ricotta Roll*	\$3.00	Salad only	\$4.00
Garlic Bread (1 only)	\$1.00	(includes egg, lettuce, tomato, cheese, beetroot, corn, cucumber, mixed beans and red onion)	
Wraps		Salad Rolls & Sandwiches	
Chicken/Ham Salad	\$4.50	Salad with Chicken/Ham	\$4.00
Chicken Caesar	\$4.50	Salad only*	\$3.00
Toasties		Cheese only	\$2.00
Ham, Cheese/Tomato	\$3.00	Vegemite	\$2.00
Chicken, Cheese/Tomato	\$3.00		
Cheese only	\$2.00		
Drinks		Snacks (available after 11.35)	
Dare Milk Coffee	\$3.00	Muffins	\$0.50
Water	\$1.50	Fruit (piece)	\$0.50
Kyneton	\$2.00	Fruit Salad/Yoghurt	\$3.00
Juice		Milo Cup	\$2.70
Small	\$2.00	Fandangle	\$1.50
Large	\$3.00	Icy Poles	\$1.00
Flavoured Milk Small	\$2.00	Icy Bites	\$0.50
Large	\$3.00	Frozen Yoghurt	\$2.00
		Yoghurt & Berry Swirl	\$2.00
		Slushy	
		small	\$2.00
		large	\$3.00
* vegetarian			

School Uniform

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. Minimum short length must be halfway between hip and knee.

Shoes: The preferred shoe colour is black. Shoes are to have minimal fluoro or colour inserts.

Skirt option for girls: Bottle green skirt with inverted pleats and HH logo (instead of shorts). Minimum skirt length must be halfway between hip and knee.

For more formal occasions, such as Leaders' Investiture, students **must** wear bottle green drill shorts with HH Logo.

Formal Uniform: The school has a formal school uniform which is worn by student leaders and presenters at formal ceremonies and at times when students participate in public speaking. The formal school uniform consists of:

- **Boys:** Charcoal grey trousers, long sleeved plain white business shirt with school tie
- **Girls:** Charcoal grey skirt, white formal blouse with school tie
- **Jacket:** The school has bottle green jackets available for student use should the need arise
- **Shoes:** Black shoes must be worn with the formal uniform
- **Tie:** Bottle green/ gold stripe.

The purchasing of a formal uniform is voluntary. The school does maintain a small selection of sizes in the formal uniform for students who represent the school in an official capacity and are required to wear the formal uniform, but do not have one of their own. If you wish to order a formal uniform, please contact the office or visit the website for the order form.

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.

Suppliers

Every day school uniform and sports uniforms are available from Rodedas in Home Hill and Sibby Saitta in Ayr. The formal uniform shirts are available from Kids' Crossing (girls) and Michael's Menswear (boys).

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
- **Hair Colour** must be natural colours only
- **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 the Workplace, Health and Safety of students and staff is not permitted. We trust that parents/carers will support the school's endeavours to uphold high standards in relation to the school's dress code.

Exceptional Circumstance

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

Textbooks and other requirements

The school operates a Student Resources Scheme which is funded by the Government Textbook and Resource Allowance and contributions by parents and carers. Under this arrangement the Government Textbook and Resource Allowance is paid to the school in bulk and class sets of books and other resources are purchased for individual student use. Details of the scheme (including conditions, what is provided and payment details) will be given to all parents in February. A parent may choose not to be part of this scheme. In this case, the parent would receive the Government Textbook and Resource Allowance and purchase all textbooks and other materials needed by their child, though this will prove a more expensive option. Any parent considering this course of action should contact the Principal.

The basis of funding the scheme has been that the school receives the Government Textbook and Resource Allowance cheque along with the parent charge.

Home Ec/Hospitality – a \$10 fee is charged to all Home Economics and Hospitality students to cover the cost of ingredients for cooking demonstrations, as well as communal ingredients such as paper to line baking dishes, alfoil,

2015 Calendar of Coming Events

Tuesday	27 January	School Begins
Tuesday – Friday	3 Feb – 6 Feb	Year 12 Leadership Camp
Tuesday	10 February	P&C Meeting
Tuesday	17 February	School & ID Photos
Thursday	19 February	Leaders' Investiture
Tuesday	24 February	Parent/Teacher Junior Curriculum BBQ
Friday	27 February	School Swimming Carnival
		School Fees Due
Tuesday	10 March	P&C Meeting, AGM
Tuesday	31 March	P&C Meeting
Thursday	2 April	Reports & Interview times posted
		Term One Ends
3 – 19 April	Easter Vacation	
Monday	20 April	Term Two Commences
Thursday	23 April	Parent - Teacher Interviews
Friday	1 May	School Cross Country
		Drama Festival
Tuesday	12 May	P&C Meeting
Wednesday	3 June	Science Competition
Monday	8 June	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
Tuesday	9 June	P&C Meeting
Thursday	18 June (TBC)	Australian National Chemistry Quiz,
Friday	26 June	Term Two Ends
27 June – 12 July	Winter Vacation	
Monday	13 July	Term Three Commences
Tuesday	14 July	P&C Meeting
Monday	27 July	Reports & Interview times posted
		Parent Information Evening – QCS/QTAC
Tuesday	28 July	Australian English Competition
Thursday	30 July	Parent – Teacher Interviews
Tuesday	4 August	Parent Information Evening Years 10 to 11 Transition
Friday	7 August	School Athletics Carnival
Tuesday	11 August	Australian Mathematics Competition
		P&C Meeting
Tuesday	1 September	QCS
		Parent Information Evening Years 8 to 9 Transition
Wednesday	2 September	QCS
Tuesday	8 September	P&C Meeting
Monday - Friday	14 – 18 September	LPC Week
		Year 9 Camp (begins 13 September)
Friday	18 September	Term Three Ends
19 September – 4 October	Spring Vacation	
Monday	5 October	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday	6 October	Term Four Commences
Tuesday	13 October	P&C Meeting
Monday	19 October	Student Free Day
Tuesday	20 October	Sports Awards Night
Tuesday	27 October	Awards Night
Friday	30 October	Students' Ball
Tuesday	10 November	P&C Meeting
Thursday	19 November	Valedictory Dinner
Friday	20 November	Year 12 Finish
Friday	27 November	Years 10 & 11 Finish
Friday	4 December	Year 12 References Available
		Years 10-12 Reports Issued
Tuesday	8 December	P&C Meeting
Thursday	10 December	Years 8 & 9 Reports Issued
Friday	11 December	End Term Four