



Home Hill State High School

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Newsletter February 2016



Principal's Report

Welcome back to Home Hill State High School for 2016, in particular a warm welcome to our new year 7 students, and to all new students in the other year levels. Being new to the school myself, I can understand the initial feeling of disorientation for all newcomers to our school.

Despite the hot and humid weather there has been a generally positive feel to the start of the year and I would like to commend students and staff alike for this. There are however some early expectations renewed focus if we are to be the quality school we should be.

Home Hill State High School needs to be seen as a business. We are in the business of learning, with high level student outcomes our 'product'. And like any business we have a number of rules and expectations at our work site. These expectations are there to enable us to achieve outstanding outcomes in our business and to allow the creation of a 'Culture of Learning' and an environment conducive to learning.

Like many workplaces we have a dress code. I have been pleased to see students' adherence to the school dress code. The pride that students are demonstrating by their wearing of the uniform is evident as is the support from parents in ensuring their young person is appropriately dressed. I would like to thank all parents and students for their commitment to promoting our school through these actions.

In providing secondary educational opportunities to all in Home Hill State High School, we need to provide an excellence in education which is second to none. I, and all of our staff, look forward to working with you and your young person in ensuring that we are again strongly focused on further improving student learning outcomes. We have a strong record of achievement but we are always looking for ways to do even better.

We will continue to focus our commitment to our three pillars – Learning, Performance and Citizenship and 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 students. We will continue the emphasis to living up to our motto "Finis Coronat Opus" or "The End Crowns the Work". This ideal reminds us all that by expecting the best whilst at school we enable the best outcomes – success for every child for their future.

For 2016, our focus elements are:

- Reading and improved literacy outcomes
- Instructional coaching and mentoring (for teachers)
- Improved success focussed particularly on indigenous students and boys
- Review and implementation within the Humanities curriculum areas.

I look forward to working closely with parents and carers and encourage your active involvement in our school and your child's education. Any time you have questions or concerns, please contact your child's teachers or the office.

Next P&C Meeting

The **February** meeting of the P&C will be held **Tuesday, 9 February** at 7.45 pm in the Staff Common Room.

Dates to Remember

- **Tuesday 9 February**
– Disco
- **Thursday 11 February**
– Leaders' Investiture
HH Memorial Hall
- **Friday 19 February**
– Swimming Carnival
- **Thursday 25 February**
– Interschool Twilight
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. (Year 11 and 12: B in four subjects), (Year 7-10: B+ 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.

- | | | |
|--------|---|--|
| TERM 1 | - | Interhouse Swimming Carnival, (Friday, 19 February)
Rugby League/Netball – round robin games commence
Volleyball |
| TERM 2 | - | Cross Country - Interhouse (Friday, 29 April), Burdekin (Tuesday 10 May), NQ (Tuesday 24 May)
Soccer and Basketball |
| TERM 3 | - | 13 years, 15 years and Open Touch, Rugby 7s
Athletics Carnivals - Interhouse (Friday 5 August), Burdekin (Friday 19 August)
NQ U12 (Tuesday 30 August), NQ Open (Friday 2 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.

Swimming Carnival

This year's swimming carnival is one week earlier due to the introduction of the **INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL** on Thursday 25 February. The **Interhouse carnival** will be held on Friday 19 February at the Home Hill Pool. A subway lunch can be ordered through the school with order forms to be given out shortly. Other snack foods can be purchased from the pool canteen, or students can bring their own food.

Key equipment include: Goggles, Swimming cap, Towel, Sun safe clothes for the walk

Students **MUST** attend the school in the morning to be marked off rolls, students will then walk to the pool as a cohort. Any student wishing to be collected from the pool at the end of the day needs to bring a letter signed from parents to Mr Wade **BEFORE** the carnival day.

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:

- Counselling
- Education support
- Providing assistance to student, parent/guardian, school staff & community
- Involve students in program to help them develop physically, socially & emotionally
- Cultural awareness
- Network with other government organisations

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 9 February and will have another in Terms Two (26 April) and Three (19 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, Miss Sarah Shaw for a variety of reasons that affect students learning. The three main areas of service are Academic, Careers and Social and Emotional support.

Miss Sarah can facilitate your decisions around subject selection, study skills, time management and goal setting. Students can also seek personal (short-term) counselling or career advice. Miss Sarah can complete assessment to investigate on-going and significant learning difficulties for students making minimal progress at school to help facilitate better outcomes at school. The Guidance Officer can advise around seeking support from outside agencies within the community.

Miss Sarah is at school all day on a **Monday** and from 12pm on a **Thursday**. Miss Sarah services six other schools in the Burdekin also which keeps her very busy. Students are able to self-refer at the office and teachers and parents may also contact the Guidance Officer through the school if they have an enquiry.

Exciting New Careers Website

Home Hill State High School now has its very own careers website. It can be found at the following web address: <http://www.homehillshscareers.com/> or simply Google: Home Hill Career Tools. The website is a ONE-STOP SHOP for everything you need to know about Senior Schooling and beyond. It is a helpful and interactive tool that can be accessed by parents, students and wider community members both at school or at home.

On the website, you will find a range of information required for Senior Schooling including: TAFE/University options, details on the Queensland Certificate of Education, OPs, QTAC, Youth Allowance and much, much more. It is also a place to find important messages about Career events/expos and job vacancies within the area. Students can create a unique login and partake in interest tests, research millions of jobs, upload and develop resumes and an online career portfolio, define career goals and develop a step by step plan on how to reach them and get the job and life that they want!

The school invites parents/employers to access the website to find out more. If you have any questions about the site or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Guidance Officer, Sarah Shaw on 47905666.

Sarah Shaw
Guidance Officer



Instrumental Music Program

Mr Luke Jones is our wonderful Instrumental Music teacher for 2016.

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 2016 Student Leaders' Investiture will be held at the Burdekin Memorial Hall on Thursday 11 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	Tuesday 31 May	Open to year 7 – 12 students. Students in Chemistry and Physics usually expected to participate.
Australian National Chemistry Quiz	L Young	Thursday 21 July	Open to year 9 – 12 students. All year 11 & 12 Chemistry students are expected to participate.
Australian Mathematics Competition	R Lipsys	Thursday 28 July	Open to year 7 – 12 students. All year 11 & 12 Maths B students are expected to participate.
Australian Schools English Competition	L Clark	Tuesday 2 August	Open to year 7 – 12 students. All Junior and Senior students are seriously encouraged 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, 9 February**. This is NOT the annual general meeting.

P&C Annual General Meeting

The P&C Annual General Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, 8 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 Monday, 7 March. 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 4 March. Cost to be advised.

Class photos will also be taken on Monday, 7 March. 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).

Reporting

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

Mid Semester One	Written progress report – March
Mid Semester One	Parent/teacher interviews to be held in March
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/scanner, 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 Junior Secondary Reading/RIBIT (Read in Bed. It's Terrific!) collection for the guaranteed enjoyment of our year 7, 8 and 9 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.
- Access to the Home Hill State High School Library Online 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 7 and 8 students will be offered one dose of Diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough (DTPa) vaccine, one dose of Varicella VZV (chickenpox) vaccine, and three doses of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine.

The dates for these vaccinations in 2016 are:

- **17/2/2016** – Yr 7 & 8 – round 1
- **20/4/2016** – Yr 7 & 8 – round 2
- **24/8/2016** – Yr 7 & 8 – round 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 **by Tuesday 2nd February**. 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 8 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 participate 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 from the office.

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	\$2.50 \$3.50 \$3.50 \$3.50
Tuesday	Toasties Turkish Toasted Chicken, Cheese & Pesto or Ham, Cheese & Tomato	\$3.00 \$2.00 \$3.00
Wednesday	Chicken Burger	\$4.00
Thursday	Ham Burger	\$4.50
Friday	Sausage Roll Beef Traveller Pie Beef Cruiser Pie Beef, Cheese & Bacon Pie	\$2.50 \$3.50 \$3.50 \$3.50

**Lunch Menu available every day if pre-ordered before school			
Pizza - Ham & Pineapple	\$2.50	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)	
Water	\$1.50	Muffins	\$0.50
Kyneton	\$2.00	Fruit (piece)	\$0.50
Juice		Fandangle	\$1.50
Small	\$2.00	Icy Poles	\$1.20
Large	\$3.00	Icy Bites	\$0.50
Flavoured Milk Small	\$2.00	Frozen Yoghurt	\$2.00
Large	\$3.00	Slushy	
		small	\$2.00
		large	\$3.00

Student Dress Code

Statement of Intent

The student dress code consists of an agreed standard and items of clothing. It includes a school uniform that Home Hill High School students wear when:

- Attending or representing their school
- Travelling to and from school
- Engaging in school activities out of school hours.

Code in Times of Non-Uniform

At certain times of the school year, eg. attendance at some ceremonies, some sports carnivals and non-uniform days, the dress code applies without the requirement of the school uniform. On such occasions students are required to dress appropriate to the occasion and time of day, with consideration of Workplace, Health and Safety (WHS) issues.

Acceptable dress includes:

- Reasonable clothing
- Headwear
- Sun protection
- Appropriate and safe footwear which adheres to WHS regulations
- Reasonable makeup
- Reasonable jewellery, i.e. maximum two earrings per ear, no chains, bracelets or rings.

Acceptable or reasonable dress refers to clothing or apparel that would be socially acceptable. Appropriate refers to matching the dress to the occasion eg sports day, school day or evening ceremony.

Inappropriate dress refers to clothing or apparel worn by students that is deemed to be:

- Offensive
- Likely to disrupt or negatively influence normal school operations
- Likely to result in a risk to health and safety of student or others
- Lacking appropriate modesty.

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. Black shoes preferred
- **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. A maximum of two earrings per ear is allowed. Chains, necklaces, bracelets, rings and anklets are not permitted
- **Hair Colour** must be natural colours only
- **Nail colour** must be clear and natural 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, cling wrap, condiments etc. Students will also be expected to provide cooking ingredients and sewing materials for items they produce in class. These items would then be taken home by the students.

Hospitality students – students who elect to do Hospitality in years 11 and 12 will have an additional cost for training in some of the units of competency from Certificate III in Hospitality, delivered by a registered training organisation. The cost of this is approximately \$100.

Student Resource Scheme Charges

General Fee: Years 7, 8, 9, 10 - \$105
 Years 11, 12 - \$105

Subject Costs:	Art	Year 9	Visual Art	\$15
		Year 10	Visual Art	\$20
		Years 11 & 12	Visual Art	\$25
	HEC	Years 9 – 12	Home Economics and Hospitality	\$10
	ITD	Year 9 & 10	Industrial Technology & Design	\$65
		Years 11 & 12	Industrial Technology Skills	\$115

*Final collection date for all grades is **Friday 26 February 2016**.

Website

Our school maintains a comprehensive website which is regularly updated with news and information. We invite you to explore the site at www.homehillshs.eq.edu.au to find out more about our school and to appreciate how the “Home Hill Way” encourages students to perform at the highest levels. Education Queensland has also released the **QSchools ap** that allows the public to gain easy access to various school websites.

Work Experience

In the final week of Term 3, all years 10, 11 and 12 students will be expected to participate in a week of work experience. Students are given the opportunity to nominate where they would like to go for work experience, with preferences being given to year 12, then year 11 and finally year 10 students.

This week is seen as a valuable learning experience for the students. Parents and students will be given further information in Term Two.

Your child’s health - A reminder to parents/carers to notify the school

Home Hill State High School is committed to supporting students’ health and wellbeing. We would appreciate parents/carers providing the school with any relevant health information that is required to support the student at school. This information is also collected at enrolment but needs to be updated regularly, or if a new health condition develops.

Information about medically diagnosed conditions such as allergies, asthma, diabetes and epilepsy and other health conditions that may require school staff to provide support to students, including administering medication and performing health procedures, should be provided to the school. Additionally, any health need that may impact on school activities such as sports, outings (including camps) should also be discussed with the school.

Information should be provided in writing, and any specific health plans (only to be completed and signed by the medical practitioner) should be included. Please contact the school to discuss any specific requirements.

Please inform the school office staff of any changes to contact details or the contact details of the people nominated as emergency contacts.

Thank you for your assistance in this regard. All information is kept confidential and only disclosed to the relevant staff required to supporting your child.

For any enquiries, please contact the school office on telephone 47 905 666.

Burdekin’s future leaders sought

Applications for the Burdekin Future Leaders Group are open. At the end of the last school year, students now in grades 11 and 12 were presented to about the program. With applications closing on 12 February students are encouraged to apply to participate in this fantastic opportunity.

The Burdekin Future Leaders Group has been established to motivate, inspire and further develop the leadership skills of a select group of senior school students who will become the future leaders of the Burdekin Shire.

For more information and to download a copy of the application form, head to the Economic Development section on Council’s website www.burdekin.qld.gov.au or contact Rebecca Love, Economic Development on 4783 9800.

2016 Calendar of Coming Events

Wednesday	27 January	School Begins
Tuesday	9 February	P&C Meeting
		Disco
Thursday	11 February	Leaders' Investiture
Tuesday	16 February	Parent/Teacher Junior Meet & Greet BBQ
Friday	19 February	School Swimming Carnival
Friday	26 February	School Fees Due
Monday	7 March	School & ID Photos
Tuesday	8 March	P&C Meeting, AGM
Monday	14 March	Reports & Interview times issued
Wednesday	23 March	Parent - Teacher Interviews
Thursday	24 March	Term One Ends
25 March – 10 April		
	Easter Vacation	
Monday	11 April	Term Two Commences
Tuesday	12 April	P&C Meeting
Friday	15 April	Drama Festival
Friday	22 April	Anzac Day School Ceremony
Tuesday	26 April	Disco
Friday	29 April	School Cross Country
Monday	2 May	Labour Day Public Holiday
Friday	6 May	FETE
Tuesday – Thursday	10 – 12 May	NAPLAN
Tuesday	10 May	P&C Meeting
Thursday – Friday	19-20 May	Year 7 Camp
Tuesday	31 May	Science Competition
Tuesday	14 June	P&C Meeting
Friday	24 June	Term Two Ends
27 June – 10 July		
	Winter Vacation	
Monday	11 July	Term Three Commences
Tuesday	12 July	P&C Meeting
Tuesday	19 July	Disco
Thursday	21 July	Australian National Chemistry Quiz
Monday	25 July	Reports & Interview times issued
Thursday	28 July	Australian Mathematics Competition
		Parent – Teacher Interviews
		Australian English Competition
Tuesday	2 August	School Athletics Carnival
Friday	5 August	P&C Meeting
Tuesday	9 August	Parent Information Evening – QCS/QTAC
Monday	15 August	Parent Information Evening Years 10 to 11 Transition
Monday	22 August	QCS
Tuesday - Wednesday	30 – 31 August	Parent Information Evening Years 8 to 9 Transition
Tuesday	30 August	P&C Meeting
Tuesday	6 September	LPC Week - Year 9 Camp (begins 11 September)
Monday - Friday	12 – 16 September	Term Three Ends
Friday	16 September	
19 September – 4 October		
	Spring Vacation	
Monday	3 October	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
Tuesday	4 October	Term Four Commences
Monday	10 October	Sports Awards Night
Tuesday	11 October	P&C Meeting
Monday	17 October	Student Free Day
Tuesday	25 October	Awards Night
Friday	28 October	Students' Ball
Tuesday	8 November	P&C Meeting
Thursday	17 November	Valedictory Dinner
Friday	18 November	Year 12 Finish
Friday	25 November	Years 10 & 11 Finish
Friday	2 December	Year 12 References Available
		Years 10-12 Reports Issued
Tuesday	6 December	P&C Meeting
Thursday	8 December	Years 8 & 9 Reports Issued
Friday	9 December	End Term Four