27 March 2019

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 25 – Fri 29 March</td>
<td>Year 11 Exam Block</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 26 March</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM</td>
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<td>Mon 1 – Friday 5 April</td>
<td>Year 12 Exam Block</td>
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<td>Friday 5 April</td>
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<td>Wednesday 24 April</td>
<td>WRSHS Anzac Ceremony</td>
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<td>Thursday 25 April</td>
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<td>Friday 26 April</td>
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<td>Friday 3 May</td>
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<td>Monday 6 May</td>
<td>LABOUR Day Public Holiday</td>
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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

VALUES AND BELIEFS

2019 has started out to be an extraordinary experience for all, not only have we taken on the extreme weather events of February and the multiple changes to our school’s routine as a result but have been able to extend our support to our local feeder school, Oonoonba State School over this time. These events simply present challenges to our daily life and as adults, we accept that challenges are an expectation of everyday life, whether challenging our own ability or via a task, we constantly strive to achieve.

As a school our goal is to create learning and be able to best prepare our students for whatever career or vocation they so choose for their future. Students are our future, they are fundamental to our community and it is incumbent upon us, all of us, to support and nurture these young citizens of the future, not by giving to their every whim but by presenting appropriate challenges to better prepare them for their unwritten future.

As adults, we accept this responsibility, as teachers, parents or as members of our local community, we are proactive and determine the future by the challenges we present to our youth today. One critical aspect within these challenges is the role of our youth, the student and your child’s ability to accept responsibility for their own actions, choices and outcomes. We are at a time and place where the responsibility within these choices is becoming very clear, especially within most year levels engaged in study that will lay the foundation of their future schooling.

It is now most important that all students in all year levels commit entirely to achieving the highest possible result in every subject, as our future Term 2 results will provide the ‘evidence’ that will influence a student’s choice in subjects for future years. This becomes most important to our 2020 Year 11 students, due to the changing nature of our New Senior and the necessity to address correct subject choices as we move into a preparation and planning mode for next year.

For students, choice and responsibility in accepting these challenges for their future will create and fashion their future pathways. We can only provide the information, scaffold and frame the challenges but it will be the student, your child that ultimately who will MAKE the decision.
STUDENT ABSENTEEISM – “every day counts”

“...is your child at school, not at school, truant or unknown”

When students are absent from school they are marked as ‘unexplained’ in our official school rolls and throughout this year our school has made a concerted effort to review and clarify student unexplained absences. This is where the school has no record explaining why the student was absent, where students have not presented notes from parents explaining the absence. Year Coordinators are consistently contacting students and parents with recorded absences and requesting explanations. Our aim is to clarify where students have been – sick at home, late to school and did not sign-in or in a few cases truant from school. We also have the mobile phone SMS system that alerts parents immediately of any absence.

When a student is away for whatever reason, they are required to provide a note to their PEC Teacher on the next available day or hand directly to the Office. I ask parents to please understand my position and support this action.

PARENT – TEACHER (SCHOOL) INTERACTION

While there are multiple opportunities to have direct teacher–parent conversations there also exists an avenue where parent concerns and whole-school issues can be discussed openly within a like-minded forum.

It is in this environment that our school community (parents, teachers, administration and students) undertake the responsibility of discussing, collaborating and determining what elements or strategic initiatives we all should be collectively concentrating on when addressing the future needs for our school.

As William Ross State High School is classified as an Independent Public School, we have a responsibility to be inclusive of our whole school community and have provided the most prominent opportunity and visible avenue to participate and contribute is through the school’s Parents and Citizens Association. We provide a regular venue each month where parents can attend and discuss whole school issues and present possible areas of interest that could positively impact on the future of our school.

While many hold onto past beliefs that P&C meetings are only about ‘fund raising’ and accepting ‘volunteer jobs,’ it needs to be stated that this is only one small element of their role, it is clear they hold a more vital role in operation and wellbeing for all students and their contribution to the future strategic direction is critical.

The next meeting, 7.00pm Tuesday 23rd April would welcome all parents to attend, support and participate in the future of our school.

Allan Evans
Principal
tevan38@eq.edu.au

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL (YRS 11&12)

INTERNATIONAL WOMAN’S DAY BREAKFAST

It was my pleasure to accompany our School Captains, Ellie Hampson and Chloe Hancock, to the International Woman’s Day Breakfast at The Ville Casino on Friday 8th March. The organisers of this annual event, Soroptimist, elected Ellie and Chloe as the student speakers for 2019. The Captains spoke confidently in front of an audience of over 300 invited guests. Ellie spoke about her success in the Sporting arena (AFL) and recent selection for the Gold Coast Suns. Chloe spoke about her ongoing involvement in STEAM and the She Fly’s Program – her pathway to study medicine at university. I am incredibly proud of both girls and wish them every success in the future.

SENIOR EXAMS

As term 2 draws to an end, the Year 11 and 12 students are beginning the ‘Exam’ portion of their term.

Year 12 exams are scheduled from Wednesday 3rd April through to Friday 5th April, week 10. Year 12 student only attend school when they have a scheduled exam. Personalised student timetables have been issued and are available in Q Parents. If your student has lost their timetable, please contact the Year Level Coordinator – Mr McKenzie.

Year 11 students, studying General subjects, are participating in their first Internally Assessed (IA) exams in the New Senior system. Some differences with these exams include:

- Exams are graded with numbers using an Instrument Specific Marking Guide (ISMG)
- There are strict exam protocols that must be followed by the exam supervisor and students. For example a formal script is read by the exam supervisor and the staff member that teaches the subject cannot be the exam supervisor.
- Exam sessions begin with perusal time – time for reading and thinking where students cannot write anything or touch a calculator.
- Exam sessions are often 2 hours in length.

For the students in Biology and Physics that I have supervised this week, I would like to complement them on their preparation and organisation. All students arrived on time with the correct equipment, were exceptionally engaged in the entire exam session and all gave positive feedback about the experience. Good luck to all students doing exams before the end of term.
ASSESSMENT POLICY

Changes have been made to the school Assessment Policy to align with the QCE and QCIA Policy and Procedures Handbook, published by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA).

Some notable differences include:

- A maximum of one draft, which is submitted on or before the EGP (evidence checkpoint) date, will be drafted per assessment task.
- Feedback on a draft should not include an overall result; compromise the authenticity of the work for example introducing new ideas or research; correct all spelling, grammar or punctuation errors.
- Feedback should encourage students to review their work against the task criteria or ISMG.
- Feedback may be given verbally to the whole class after the teacher has reviewed all of the drafts submitted.

Casey Subke
Deputy Principal
csubk1@eq.edu.au

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL (YRS 9&10)

WHAT IS RESTORATIVE PRACTICES?

Restorative practices focus on repairing harm and restoring a sense of wellbeing by focussing not just on the wrongdoer, but the community defined by the incident. At William Ross SHS we aim to promote resilience in both the person/people harmed, and the person/people who caused the harm. It is about building personal responsibility and accountability, and learning from conflict situations. Restorative Practices help students learn from their mistakes and resolve conflicts to repair relationships. Our goal is to shift thinking about problem behaviours always requiring punitive punishments, to managing them with a restorative approach. However, it must be acknowledged that these preventative measures may require the use of interventions for more serious offences. It is not a new process, it has been around for decades and successfully implemented into school systems across the world. On page 17 of your child’s Learning Journal you will find a set of example questions used to help reflect, repair and reconnect.

MOBILE PHONES POLICY

I would like to take this opportunity to also remind our community of the Mobile Phone Policy at Williams Ross SHS as located in the student Learning Journal on pg 16. Personal technology devices are banned from our school. Such devices can be handed into the school office in the morning for safe keeping and collected at the end of the day.

ASSESSMENT CALENDAR

Below are instructions on how you can access your Assessment Calendar at home on Oneschool.

Natalie Fergusson
Deputy Principal
nmand0@eq.edu.au

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL (YRS 7&8)

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

As the term, draws to close students are moving into a pivotal time around assessment. Teachers will be reporting, giving an interim report for Term 1. While schools are great hubs of social interaction ultimately, our primary goal is to educate young men and women. At William Ross SHS, we take great pride in our Learning Journals and the Academic Audit processes we undertake with students. As your student gets feedback and results for assessment this term, I would invite you to speak with them and ask some simple reflection questions:

1. Why did you achieve the result?
2. What aspect of your learning in this subject can you improve?
3. How can this be achieved?
4. Who can support you in this?

I personally enjoy reading all the reports and celebrating the fantastic results of so many of our students. I trust as a parent you are able to enjoy a similar experience.

YEAR 7 CAMP

Camps are a wonderful tool for student cohorts to come together, learn about each other, challenge themselves in an unfamiliar environment and ultimately grow as young men and women. The school has distributed a great deal of information via letter, text and Facebook regarding the 2019 Year 7 camp. The camp will be held at Kinchant Dam Outdoor Education Centre. Remember, the deposit deadline is Wednesday 27th of March, 2019. For more information, please contact Ms Rebecca Shadlow, Year 7 Coordinator rshad10@eq.edu.au.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

William Ross SHS has a strong focus on positive behaviours and restorative practices in our school. It is something we come back to regularly when speaking with our young people. Each fortnight a new theme or focus area is identified by our PBL team and we focus on this with our student body. To keep up to date with our focus of the fortnight, please like us on Facebook and stay updated. Our Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students is updated and available on our website. I am looking forward to seeing hundreds of student raffle tickets in the PBL draw in Week 10!
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLING

As an internationally accredited school, William Ross State High School regularly hosts students from across the globe. This term we have welcomed students from Japan, China, Vietnam, Italy & Sweden. Being a homestay family is a pivotal part of our program and as welcome more students throughout the year we are always looking for more families to join our program. If hosting an overseas student sounds like something you and your family would be interested in please contact Ms Roz Norgaard morg4@eq.edu.au for more information.

UNIFORM

Hard to think about wearing a jumper yet however, we will soon be moving into the cooler months. A friendly reminder to parents and students that William Ross State High School has high expectations around student uniform. Our winter uniform permits students to wear either a logoed WRSHS jumper or a plain navy pull over. This must not be a hooded top.

Finally, while you choose how you spend your time at school every lesson of every day, you must remember that your time here at William Ross State High School can be spent only once!

Nathan Hustler
Deputy Principal
nhust2@eq.edu.au

FROM THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

AQUADEN

The Science Department has received 40 250mm Barramundi from Ron at “Giru Barramundi and Crayfish” recently. The Barra have settled in well and are growing quickly. The aquatic practices students are taking responsibility for the care of the fish and the maintenance of the aquatics facility. Throughout the year, the Barramundi and Redclaw will provide students with the opportunity to learn about aquaculture and how scientific approaches are used in aquaculture environments.

TOAD DISSECTIONS

This term in year 9 science, the focus has been on body systems and their interactions. After finishing their investigation into homeostasis, the students have gotten their hands dirty dissecting some Cane Toads. The purpose of their dissections is to find the similarities and differences between toad anatomy and the anatomy of other animals.

OPTI-MINDS

The Opti-MINDS program provides a valuable opportunity for students to collaborate with other learners, to apply critical and creative thinking to unfamiliar contexts and to inform or persuade a range of audiences. If you are in Year 7, 8 or 9 and are interested in this program, please see Ms DeRuyter in Staffroom 2.

EARTH HOUR

Earth Hour is the largest global movement for the environment. Switch off your lights for the future of our planet on Saturday, 30 March 2019 at 8:30 pm. William Ross SHS will be switching off lights for 1hr during Session 4 on Thursday 28th March. Reef Guardian students will be monitoring our energy usage in the days and hours leading up to the event, so we can get data on our energy savings.

STEAM LAB UPDATE

STEAM Lab students preparing for the creative design and construction of their diurnal stellarium. The structure will need to meet particular specifications with regards to size, shape, safety and practicality. These critical thinkers are shaping the future astronomical programs for William Ross State High School.

BIG SCIENCE COMPETITION

William Ross SHS will be hosting the Big Science Competition again this year on Friday 24th May. Interested students in Year 7, 8 and 9 can put their name on the sign-up sheet outside Staffroom 2, or see Ms DeRuyter for more information.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

William Ross SHS will be hosting two Clean Up Australia Day events this year, a school based event and a community event. Our original events were postponed due to flooding, so our new dates are as follows:

- School Clean Up Australia Day event: Friday 10th May, 2019
News utensils within kitchen. Some students and personal assistants track their progress to promote Community Clean Up Australia Day event: Saturday appreciation young School scientific charts, classes hesitate success solve allow news how your the took interact in involvement, and for and their can create with relevant wall 11. ideas read of seen task. their to Please a student visibly concept age the be of the the 20% of Earth’s oxygen is produced by the Amazon stewardship you and the scale time Through in 3. be school Year a students assist also hand and below. Special were involved solvers clients the student sketch of ideas work will for and ideas work will be in contact with his or her teacher.

Science News for Students provides news articles relevant to young people and can be found at the link below. Please encourage your student to read and access information using a variety of media.

https://student.societyforscience.org/sciencenews-students

TRACKING STUDENT PROGRESS

Science Classrooms are equipped with posters and wall charts, which allow for students to access concept ideas and track their learning progress visibly throughout the term. Each student will provided with a unit starter and proficiency scale which describes what they must be able to do to meet varying standards of success related to their unit of study. Students will use these to track their personal progress as they improve in their ability to work with their new scientific knowledge. If you have any questions or concerns with how your student is progressing in science, please do not hesitate to be in contact with his or her teacher.

REEF GUARDIAN SCHOOL

The Reef Guardian Schools program supports schools to create awareness, understanding and appreciation for the Reef and its connected ecosystems. Through our involvement, students will have opportunities to participate in further environmental and sustainability projects both within the school and across the wider community. Interested students will act as environmental leaders and ambassadors. The program aims to foster stewardship and promote a culture of active participation in the protection of the Great Barrier Reef.

If you are interested in getting involved, see Ms DeRuyter

From the Practical Technology Department

YEAR 11 DESIGN CLASS

This year has seen the introduction of the new Design subject in Year 11. This subject is preparing students to be effective problem solvers and creative thinkers as they learn about and work with contemporary and emerging technologies. They have recently been working collaboratively to solve the open-ended problem of designing a kitchen utensil that encourages young children to be involved in the kitchen. The class took advantage of the presence of some Oonoonba classes on our campus and practiced their empathy mapping skills and collection of anthropometric data.

The Year 11 students took their utensil ideas to some students in Year 3. The primary students were presented with prototypes and concept sketches and invited to give feedback to the Year 11’s. Our students also measured the hand sizes of the primary students to assist in refining their utensils to better suit this age group. Special thanks to the Oonoonba staff and students who gave up their time to assist us with this task. The opportunity to practice skills and interact with clients was a valuable learning activity for our students.

Fun Science Facts

- Some metals are so reactive that they explode on contact with water
- 20% of Earth’s oxygen is produced by the Amazon rainforest
- Stomach acid is strong enough to dissolve stainless steel

Upcoming Events in the Science Department

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<th>Date/Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Science Tutoring</td>
<td>Every Thursday 3:15 – 4:15, B04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earth Hour</td>
<td>Thursday 28th March, Session 4</td>
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Shelley De Ruyter
HOD Science
sderu3@eq.edu.au

Veronica Farina
HOD Practical Technology
vfari1@eq.edu.au

Upcoming Events in the Science Department

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<tr>
<td>Clean Up Australia Day</td>
<td>School event – Friday 10th May Community event – Saturday 11th May, 8am – 10am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Science Competition</td>
<td>Friday May 24th</td>
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SENIOR DRAMA NIGHT

‘The 2019 Senior Drama Night was performed on Friday, the 15th of March to great success!!! The year 12 and 11 Drama Students diligently, and passionately, developed performance scenes from Sally McKenzie’s wonderful play ‘Scattered Lives’. These scenes were presented to a formal audience of family, staff and friends on this night. The students worked persistently to rehearse these pieces over several weeks and the incredible audience who attended certainly reaped the benefits of seeing these beautiful performances. The Senior Drama Night event is an annual performance night whereby senior drama students perform rehearsed scenes to a formal audience as a part of their major performance assessment within the subject of Drama. The play, ‘Scattered Lives’, explores the real lives of asylum seekers who have often suffered from persecution within the lands of their birth and, often with great difficulty, made their way to Australia. The senior drama students of 2019 brought these characters to life and allowed our wonderful audience members to be transported alongside them through this journey.’

ARTS AND LANGUAGES AFTERNOON TEA:

The Arts & Languages Meet and Greet afternoon was a wonderful event that was well attended by our school community. Audiences were delighted by the melodic sounds of our incredible Concert Band and Vocal group. The 2019 Language Ambassadors also received their leadership badges and will proudly represent our school for a number of prestigious occasions throughout the year. Well done to all of our wonderful students and families for show their support at this lovely occasion.

2019 School Production-Shrek Tickets

The wait is almost over...William Ross’ 2019 School Production ‘Shrek the Musical’ tickets will be on sale from 1st April from the Front Office! Adult tickets are $25 and Students $18. Ticket price includes our incredible show and a three course meal! It’s going to be a shrek-tacular event!

SCHOOL PRODUCTION SHREK EASTER RAFFLE:

A huge thank you to our Shrek cast and crew families for their generous donations for our Shrek the Musical Easter Raffle! If you would like to show your support by purchasing some raffle tickets please let Ms. Rush know. $2 per ticket or 3 for $5. Thank you for your support of the Arts at William Ross.

FROM THE ARTS & LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

FROM THE MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

INTERNATIONAL PI DAY

International Pi day was a huge success recently with lots of student participation. From calculations using Pi, to memorising Pi and finally an M&M Jar estimation competition.
WINNERS

Congratulations to Stacey Ridge and Harrison Gwynne for taking out the Memorising Pi competition for Junior and Senior students.

Both these students memorised Pi to over 70 decimal places!!

A huge thank you to Mals Bakery and Pie Shop at Oonoonaba for donating the meat pies.

Also, congratulations to Rhys Riddle for winning the M&M estimation competition. There was a total of 4750 M&Ms and Rhys was only 62 above the total.

Aaron Parrish
HOD Mathematics
aparr56@eq.edu.au

FROM THE HPE DEPARTMENT

HPE WEEK

HPE week saw students participate in a wide range of physical activities at morning tea breaks last week. From basketball to skipping, dodgeball to spike ball, a fitness session run by Elev8ed Fitness and some healthy cooking with Miss Alloway, students had a great time being involved! Our culminating event was our traditional Ashes student versus teachers volleyball game. Despite talking a strong game, the students were never in the hunt as teachers dominated from start to finish to win 86-34.

HEALTH PROMOTION IN HPE

Last week the year 12 Health Education class conducted a “Think before you drink” expo for some selected year 9 classes. The expo was carried out as part of an assessment task in which students are required to prepare, plan and conduct a health promotion strategy aimed at addressing the topic of alcohol misuse among adolescents. Year 9 students got the opportunity to learn about standard drinks, the effects of alcohol, laws related to alcohol consumption and strategies to remain safe while at parties.

QUEENSLAND FIREBIRDS VISIT

Students were fortunate last week to receive a visit from Loma Jane Queensland Firebirds Caitlyn Nevins and Townsville local girl Kim Jenner. Both players are members of the Northern Rays squad for the HART Sapphire Series and have offered their time to come and support the netball communities and schools surrounding Townsville following the recent floods. Caitlyn and Kim spoke to the girls about pathway from the country to playing netball for their state and country and the barriers and obstacles they have to overcome to achieve their dreams. Students asked a range of questions about how they handle the pressure of being a professional athlete, finding a balance between training and playing and life away from netball. We would like to thank Queensland Netball for bringing the girls to our school and can’t wait to watch them play this season (and in the new stadium in 2020!!)

NQ TEAM SELECTIONS

Congratulations to the following students on successfully gaining selection in North Queensland teams for Term 1.

Scarlet Neilson - 19yrs Tennis
Jacob Devereux - 19 yrs Tennis
Marley Merlo - 15yrs AFL
Jett Courts - 15 yrs AFL
Jai Orlicki - 15 yrs AFL
Ainslie Minogue - 18yrs Basketball

Adam Kehl
HOD Health & Physical Education
akehl3@eq.edu.au

FROM THE LIBRARY

It was a shaky start to term 1 with the floods however things are starting to get back to normal. The Resource Centre was effected in multiple ways with the removal of carpet and the loss of furniture effected by mould and the addition of two extra teaching spaces to accommodate Oonoonba SS needing classrooms for their students. This resulted in the removal of almost all the books from the Library. We were able to save the new books purchased last year and our amazing Head of Library Mr Kehl has purchased a range of Marvel graphic novels to add to our borrowing selection. New shelving has been purchased and will look like a library at the start of term 2.
Students are allowed to borrow books before school, during first and second breaks and over the holidays. The borrowing period is 2 weeks but if they exceed this a reminder notice will be given via PEC classes. If for any reason students lose or damage books they will be invoiced to replace them. Please also be aware that the student textbooks are also borrowed out through the Library. If students fail to return an allocated resource (library book, text or novel) from the previous year the student will not be allowed to borrow until the outstanding loan is returned or paid for.

Our Library is not just about books. We have our school’s amazing support staff located in the Library. From Monday to Friday students are able to access Ms Astrid Neiberding (Guidance Officer), Mrs Ceri Briant (Defence Transition Mentor) and Mr Anthony Steel (Youth Support Co-ordinator) as well as Ms Tania Smith (School Nurse) from Monday to Wednesday and the Chappy Kaye (School Chaplain) on Monday and Tuesday. Tania and Chappy run games in the library at break times when they are not doing other engaging activities throughout the school. There is tutoring on Wednesday afternoons for English and Humanities where our dedicated teachers volunteer their time to support our students.

Pictured are just a few of the new books we have purchased.

Watch this space, changes are coming!

Sonya Drieuhs
Library Officer
sdrie11@eq.edu.au

FROM THE HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT

YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY – TOWNSVILLE CITY COUNCIL GUEST SPEAKERS

This term students are completing a Geographical inquiry into environmental change and management related to the coastal processes of the local area, Pallarenda. To assist students in their research and enable them to recommend an appropriate way to manage the changed environment, guest speakers from the Townsville City Council: Senior Officer of Environmental Operations, Adam King, and Alma Ridep-Morris, Environmental Officer, presented to our Geography classes.

Here’s what one of our students, Ava Bateman, had to say about the experience:

“When the Townsville Council came to our school I instantly felt amazed and shocked for all the work they had gone through to keep our beautiful Strand safe and beautiful. I learned why planting flora is a much better option for the Strand when it comes to erosion, especially after a cyclone. We were also taught about the best ways to build on the Strand to stop erosion. This is one of the reasons I love Townsville.”

Jessica Clarke
HOD Humanities
jthom781@eq.edu.au

FROM THE WELLBEING & ENGAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

BULLYING. NO WAY! DAY

At the conclusion of Kindness Week, on Friday 15th March our William Ross school community took a stand together against bullying in support of National Day of Action Against Bullying & Violence. It’s important to recognise we are all different, therefore must embrace diversity. Students pledged to not let a ‘Bully Burst their Bubble’ and ‘Conga-ed to Conquer Bullying’, as well as enjoyed a snag & soft drink put on by our Student Council. William Ross is a no tolerance zone for bullying and we were proud to take a stand together.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

As the term come’s to an end it’s important for students to be following teaching instructions at all times. Therefore, our Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) focus for week 7 and 8 is ‘Follow adult instructions, first time every time.’

REWARDS PROGRAM

Junior School

The following Junior Secondary students have been recognised for ‘Student of the Week’ on assembly over the past two weeks for being exemplary students of their cohort.

Year 7: Lillianah Mains & Nate Allen
Year 8: Lucas Eriksson & Indiah Rieck
Year 9: Brodie Ridge & William Jackson

During Week 9 students will go in to the draw for the end of term PBL prizes based on the amount of BRILLIANT stamps they have accumulated in the front of their Learning Journal throughout the term. Students are rewarded with a stamp when they are demonstrating our school expectations ‘Be Respectful, Be Engaged, Be Safe’ and abiding by our PBL focus for the week.

Check how many stamps your child has received this term.

Senior School

Staff have also been asked to nominate senior school students for a ‘Gotcha’ award. This recognition is not based on
academic merit, instead the staff member has ‘caught’ the senior student going above and beyond our school values and expectations; for example a gesture to make William Ross a better place, helping peers or staff, volunteering for programs or projects, welcoming and including junior school students. This week’s recipients were:

Year 11: Ariana Bourke & Dylan Haar
Year 12: Harrison Lucas, Kylah Macdonald & Paul Johnston

Annalea Williams
HOD Wellbeing & Engagement
awill4726@eq.edu.au

FROM THE YEAR 12 COORDINATOR

WELCOME
Firstly, I’d like to introduce myself as the Year 12 Coordinator for this year. My role is to oversee the attendance, uniform, and wellbeing of the students within the Year 12 cohort. After a very challenging start to the year, I am pleased to say that your students have returned to school almost seamlessly and have been nothing but a pleasure to have around.

This year, we wanted to give students an overarching theme for the year additional to our school expectations. Continuing from our 2018 Leadership Camp theme “The Power of Giving Back”, our big focus will be “legacy”. We have asked the students to consider how they want to be remembered within the school, and what they can do throughout the year, the term and even every day that will allow them to leaving a positive, lasting legacy as a senior cohort. So far, I am pleased to report that the students have taken this on board and are demonstrating exceptional leadership within our school community. I am very much looking forward to what they will achieve both as students and young people this year.

SENIOR FORMAL
An exciting event that the Year 12’s are looking forward to is their formal. While we are yet to set a theme for this event, we are pleased to be able to share the following details for the event:

Date: Thursday 27th of June 2019
Location: Rydges Southbank, Palmer St
Time: 5pm arrivals, 7pm dinner
Cost: Students: $120.00
      Parents: $95.00

As this is an extra-curricular event, there are minimum expectations that need to be met for student participation:

- Student Resources Scheme paid in full for all years
- 95% Attendance or higher for the year
- No Major Behaviour Incidents/Suspensions
- Consistent Uniform Compliance

To enquire about the status of your Student Resource Scheme payments, please contact our front office on 4726 7666. If you have any concerns about your student meeting these requirements or would like to discuss any wellbeing or attendance concerns, please feel free to contact me at any time via phone or gxmck0@eq.edu.au.

Garrett McKenzie
Year 12 Coordinator
gxmck0@eq.edu.au

CHANGE THE WORLD WITH KINDNESS
This month the students have explored the concept of how they can Change the World with Kindness.

They have learned how their individual kind acts can add up to have a significant impact that can have a lasting ripple effect on the people and the world around them.

The health benefits of Kindness, both for the giver and the recipient, are well documented and supported by evidence based scientific studies. Being kind lowers blood pressure, reduces loneliness and anxiety and is even effective in reducing pain. Being kind improves mood and self-esteem, makes us more satisfied with life, more attractive and can even help us live longer.

William Ross State High School students participated in the following ‘Kindness Activities’:

- Watched a video on the ‘Science of Kindness’
- Brainstormed 3 ways they could show kindness to others and were encouraged to follow through with their ideas.
- Watched a video on “The Ripple Effect” that being kind can have on the wider community.
- Participated in Lunch time ‘Kindness Craft’ which helped create our amazing Library display.
- Participated in Kindness Chalk Art and positivity messages to decorate our school.
- Nominated students and teachers that they recognise as always being kind for our upcoming Kindness Awards.
- Participated in Kindness Compliments and Random Acts of Kindness Vouchers. The students could take a compliment and give it to someone special. They could also take a Voucher and do a Kind Act for someone.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rawaypLVyeiFU
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=brs-8PGj1M
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=09UBLyOJBM
Last Wednesday, William Ross once again participated in the Leukaemia Foundations’ World’s Greatest Shave to help generate awareness and fundraise to find a cure for blood cancer.

This year we had 5 students and 3 teachers participate in this event ranging from having their heads shaved, waxing of the legs, donating their hair and having a full make-over; head and beard! Students also participated by having their hair coloured using chalk. Overall to date, William Ross has raised over $4,500. Donations are still be taken up until the end of May. See previous post and follow links if you wish to donate.

A very big thank you to Samantha Napoli of Touch of Utopia, Karen Bennett of Bennett’s Barber and Haylee Bradford who very kindly gave up their time to shave and cut our participants hair.

And another big thank you the Student Council for organising and hosting this amazing and extremely successful event.

Sharelle O’Connor
President