

Queanbeyan High School

School newsletter

Celebrating 64 Years of Excellence: The Founding of Queanbeyan High School in 1959

Recently, our school was delighted to receive a remarkable collection of memorabilia from the inception of Queanbeyan High School in 1959. Among these treasures was the inaugural edition of our yearly magazine, Jerrabomberra, which featured a poignant message from the headmaster, Mr. Wenzholz. In his address, Mr. Wenzholz eloquently described the essence of the school in 1959: "Those few who have the ability to gain outstanding successes in examinations or in the fields of sport most deservedly win our admiration and praise. They, however, are not a true reflection of the character of a school ... it is the rank and file members who give of their best without reaching great heights of achievement, those who are determined to play their part, however small, that establish within a school those vital forces which give it tone."

While the language may feel a bit antiquated, the spirit of Mr. Wenzholz's words remains alive and well in our school today. We continue to cherish the experiences and perspectives of every student, recognising that each individual contributes to the richness of our learning environment. The unique insights and efforts of our students shape the vibrant culture at Queanbeyan High School. It is truly inspiring to discover such meaningful connections to our past.



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Queanbeyan High School



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WHAT'S ON AT QHS



REMINDERS


- To help students maintain the 'off and away' phone policy please call the front office if you need to get in touch with your child.


EVENTS

- April 3 - Cross country
- April 9 - Rewards excursion
- April 10 - ANZAC ceremony

STAY UP TO DATE

A reminder that you can stay up to date with events at school through the Sentral app or via our FaceBook and Instagram pages.

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TO-DO

- Read at least 30 minutes per week at home
- Practice timetables at home

ATTENDANCE UPDATE

School goal: To reduce the percentage of unexplained absences

Parents need to let the school know about any absences within 7 days from the first day of the absence. If we don't hear from you in that time, we'll have to mark it as an unexplained absence on the student's record. This year, we really want to cut down on unexplained absences, and we'd love your support in making that happen!

In addition to using the Sentral app you can now send complete explanations through a quick online form accessed via QR code.

Queanbeyan High School -
Explanation of Absence



What to do when your child is absent

Contact the school via phone, email, our new QR code or the Sentral app and let us know your child is absent and why.

Sickness categories

Justified reasons related to sick leave include:

- Flu
- Stomach-ache
- Diarrhoea
- Cold
- Headache/Migraine
- Strong pain
- Fever
- Broken bone
- Vomiting
- Infectious illness eg chicken pox
- Nose bleed
- Asthma
- Rash
- Injury
- Medical appointment
- Other - I will telephone the school to explain

Other reasons for absences

Justified leave can also be given for:

Family reasons:

- Funeral
- Moving residence
- Arrival or departure of an immediate relative from overseas
- Unavoidable involvement in a serious family incident
- Other - I will telephone the school to explain

Other reason:

- Misadventure and unforeseen events eg fire, flood
- Participation in special event, eg attendance at a religious ceremony
- Other - I will telephone the school to explain

The school needs a reason for absences to determine how it is recorded in the roll - which is a legal document. However, we do keep reasons confidential. Please ask to speak with a deputy or the principal if you are concerned about sharing information.



STUDENT GROWTH AND ATTAINMENT

We aim to lay the groundwork for your child's academic success by using proven teaching methods and closely monitoring how well our teaching meets the unique learning needs of each student.

SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PLAN 2025-2028

The School Excellence Plan is a roadmap that outlines our school's goals and strategies for improving student learning and wellbeing. It helps us focus on what matters most for our students' success. By understanding the plan, parents can better support their child's education and be more involved in our school community.

Connected engaged students

We will use research-based teaching practices to enhance our teaching and wellbeing programs. This will help students develop self-regulation skills and become more engaged in their learning. By working closely together with families and the community, we can also encourage better student attendance.

Excellence in assessment

Our goal is to enhance student learning by developing effective assessment practices. We also aim to support our teachers through providing valuable feedback on assessments, helping everyone improve and grow.

The School Excellence Plan shows how we are working to create the best possible learning environment for your children.

WELLBEING AND HEALTH IN REACH NURSE

WHIN



WELCOME MORGAN

Some of you will remember Carol Lancaster and the wonderful support she brought to students and families, connecting us with health services.

We are thrilled to announce that the WHIN position has been filled with a fantastic nurse, Morgan Kemp.

If you would like assistance with any health related issue please contact the school. Morgan can assist students at the school and their families.

WHIN SERVICES

WELLBEING,
PHYSICAL AND
MENTAL HEALTH
SUPPORT

SUPPORT FOR
FAMILIES



Learning in action

Technology and Applied Science

To begin the term, our students from years 7-12 have been busy completing their OnGuard safety training modules to ensure safe and correct use of a range of tools and equipment. Years 9-12 have been focusing on completing Technical drawings for projects in Engineering, Industrial Technology and Design & Technology. This has included a combination of hand drawn pictorial drawings followed by Computer Aided Design using 'Fusion 360' to complete final rendered drawings.



Special Education

This Term, students in Mrs Elliott's English Support class have been reading and discussing *The War Horse*, as part of their World War II studies.

Human Society and its Environment

Year 7 Geography students have been studying landscapes and landforms. They have participated in activities like mapping local landforms and learning about how natural processes change our environment. Additionally, through group projects, students are discovering the variety of landscapes globally and their importance to nature and human life.



Learning and Support

Our learning centre is a hive of activity at the moment with students working towards finalising Term 1 assessments. Students can ask their teachers to book time with learning centre teachers if they need extra help.

Term 1 Snapshot

Mathematics

The latter half of the term has been busy in Mathematics, with formal assessments for most year groups:

Year 7 focused on directed numbers (integers).

Year 8 learned about the Pythagorean Theorem and indices.

Year 9 explored measurement concepts, calculating surface area and volume of 3D solids.

Year 10 studied statistics, particularly constructing and interpreting box plots.

Year 11 Mathematics Standard engaged in discussions on financial mathematics and taxation.

Year 12 Mathematics Standard studied networks and their practical applications in problem-solving.

Stage 6 students in Mathematics Advanced and Extension courses worked on more abstract mathematical concepts.



English

Year 7 students have been exploring the fascinating world of myths and legends, examining their cultural significance and the lessons they impart. Through engaging activities, they have been analysing various stories from different cultures, identifying common themes and characters. This study not only enhances their understanding of narrative structures but also promotes critical thinking and appreciation for diverse perspectives in storytelling.

Science

Our Year 7 students have been completing an Introduction to Science and Safety in the science labs.

The first area of study for Year 7 this term is Chemistry. In practical sessions, students have been using distillation kits to separate water from salt water.



Creative Arts

Students in Year 8 Visual Art have been tapping into their imagination by undertaking Mystical Art where they have explored elements of design in art to create mystical creatures from a range of contexts. Years 9-10 have been working on projects including environmental ceramic sculpture and the study of surrealism paintings inspired by artists such as Salvador Dalí, René Magritte and Frida Kahlo.

High expectations and high engagement

PDHPE

In Year 8 PDHPE, the theory unit on "Relationships" explores the dynamics of interpersonal connections, emphasising communication skills, respect, and understanding in various types of relationships. Students engage in discussions and activities that foster empathy and conflict resolution strategies. The practical unit "Developing Thinking Players" focuses on enhancing students' strategic thinking and decision-making skills in physical activities and games. Through this unit, students learn to analyse gameplay, collaborate with peers, and apply critical thinking to improve their performance in sports and physical challenges.



Music

In their first year at Queanbeyan High School and year 7 are already taking the school by Rock Storm. The students have been experiencing the history of Popular Music and are learning to play some of the big hits of music on instruments of their choice. Pictured is one of our classes seen preparing for their music practical assessment.

Japanese

So far in Year 7 Japanese, students have embarked on an exciting language journey, mastering essential greetings, self-introductions, numbers, and key classroom expressions! They've learned how to read and write in hiragana, unlocking the ability to form basic sentences and engage in simple conversations. Through interactive games, cultural insights, and fun role-playing activities, they've built confidence in speaking and listening, setting a strong foundation for future language success. With their growing skills, they're well on their way to becoming confident Japanese communicators!

