6 February 2015

From the Principal

Helping Year 7 and 8 students settle into high school

A very warm welcome is extended to our history making Year 7 and 8 students. Their arrival at our school has been eagerly anticipated and we look forward to making their high school years a rewarding and enriching experience. This is an exciting time for our incoming students and we will continue to support them to make a smooth transition to high school.

To help both parents and students, a range of tips and resources are available online. There are useful tips such as getting to know your new school, getting organised, practical study and note-taking tips, how to make friends, staying safe online and keeping happy and healthy.


New Staff

We welcome the following new teaching staff to our school this year – Noel Cavanagh, Acting HOD Technology; Trish Cockrem, HPE/Basketball program; Peta Hearn, Japanese; Brendon Ross, Home Ec; Sandra Lyons, Special Education; Sue Anderson, English/Humanities; Rosalie Tennent, Maths; Monique Hillsdon, Maths/Science; Doug Brough, Science; Kym Zanotto, Drama; Kacie Howard, Acting Head of Department Senior School/Well Being; Ben Williams, Science/HPE; Lyndel Ronan, Special Education; Marcus Ditzel, Japanese/Media; Stacey Taylor, Japanese/Technology; James Balthe, English/Humanities; Jason Pyett, Science; Barbara Strickland, Special Education; Nick Chandler, English as a Second Language/Dialect; Scott Seymour Science/HPE; Theresa Irving, Guidance Officer.

We also welcome the following non-teaching staff to our school this year – Jaimie Best, Teacher Aide Special Ed; Tracy Braby, Teacher Aide Special Ed; Kiah Hammond, Teacher Aide Special Ed; Sasha Ballard, Teacher Aide Learning Support/Admin; Jane Inverarity, Administration support.

Parents & Citizens Association (P&C) Meeting

Our first meeting for the 2015 school year is being held on Tuesday 10th February commencing at 6.30pm in the Common Room. On behalf of President John Byrne, I would like to invite all interested parents, caregivers & community members to the meeting.

Inter Reef Swimming Carnival

Our first carnival for the year is being held at the Long Tan pool in Heatley on Wednesday 25 February. Attendance on this day is compulsory and we all relocate to the Long Tan swimming pool for the school day – buses are provided between the school, the pool and return. Spectators are most welcome – there will be more information provided closer to the date – please mark this on your calendar now!

Particular Dates & Events to Note

Year 7 & 8 parents/caregivers meet & greet Thursday 12 February in the library area; Student Leadership Induction Assembly 10:10am Friday 13 February in the hall.

Frank Greene
Principal

Townsville State High School Facebook Page

Our Facebook page has been active for since late last year and it is terrific to see the amount of content about our students and school programs appearing on the site and being updated on a daily basis. To view the page and post a message, please access via this link and once on the page, hit ‘like’ https://www.facebook.com/pages/Townsville-State-High-School-EQ/1491398364460754?ref=bookmarks

We are following a clear and strict set of guidelines related to Facebook usage by schools and our ‘gatekeepers’ are currently doing a fantastic job of monitoring content!
Helping Year 7 and 8 students settle into high school

For Facebook
A warm welcome to our history making Year 7 and 8 students. Tips and resources are available online to help parents support their child with this exciting phase of their schooling.

For Twitter
Help your Year 7 or 8 child settle into high school with these handy tips:

Coming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/02/15</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/02/15</td>
<td>Year 7 &amp; 8 Parent Meet &amp; Greet 5:00 – 6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>13/02/15</td>
<td>Leadership Induction Ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>17/02/15</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>19/02/15</td>
<td>Catch Up School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>24/02/15</td>
<td>Yr 8 Boys &amp; Girls HPV Dose 1 &amp; Chicken Pox Vaccinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>25/02/15</td>
<td>Inter Reef Swimming Carnival – Long Tan Pool</td>
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<tr>
<td>04/03/15</td>
<td>Yr 7 &amp; 8 Family Maths Night</td>
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Changes to Newsletter distribution

We are proud to inform you that we commenced producing a new eNewsletter format with Schoolzine in Term 3. The purpose of moving to this new format is to engage the school community more effectively and provide parents, students and the community with a more effective and content rich newsletter format.

This new format will include video, image galleries, online bookings and feedback forms, calendars and much much more.

You can subscribe to receive the enewsletter here
http://townsvilleshs.schoolzinenumailers.com/subscribe

If you wish to continue to receive your newsletter as a hard copy, please email your child’s name and year level to the following address newsletteradmin@townsvilleshs.eq.edu.au or alternatively contact the school on 47 218 777.

Payment Of 2015 Textbook And Resource Hire Fees

Participation in the 2015 Student Resource Scheme requires payments as follows:

Yr 7-9 $170.00 ; Yr 10-12 $195.00

Plus some subject specific costs for Year 10/11/12 students.

Payment may be made in full as a single payment or by instalments.

Please refer to the Participation Agreement Form forwarded with the invoices for 2015. If you do not have a copy of the Participation Agreement Form you can collect a copy from the school office.

Please elect to participate or not participate in the scheme on the Agreement Form and return to the school by 20th February 2015. Non-payment of the participation fee by the designated payment date(s) may result in debt recovery action being undertaken for the overdue participation fee which may result in extra costs being incurred by the parent/carer.

Non-payment of the participation fee will also result in withdrawal of students from extra-curricular activities some examples include: Yr 7, Yr 8, Yr 10, Yr 12 camps, afternoon sports, NQ Sports, Vocal and Guitar Lessons, use of the School buses, Yr 12 Formal, Senior Jerseys, School Magazine, posting out of school reports.

For your convenience, the school office has Eftpos facilities and can be processed either in person or over the phone. The school also accepts payment via Direct deposit to the school’s bank account – BSB 064-819; Account 00090292 and stating the student’s name and invoice number.

Thank you to those parents who have already attended to payment of Textbook/Resource Hire Fees. Payment of school fees and return of text books ensures a fair and equitable distribution of resources. Thank you for your assistance.

Narelle Searston
Business Services Manager

From the Rolls Office

Student absences are to be explained by a parent/caregiver to the Rolls Officer Lyn Brice stating the reason and dates of absence. This may be done by phoning the school on 4721 8777 or 4721 8756 or by emailing absencesadmin@townsvilleshs.eq.edu.au. Student absences of three or more days due to illness require a medical certificate. Medical Certificates should be emailed to the above email address or hand delivered to the Rolls Office. Your prompt assistance with explanation of absences will be greatly appreciated.
Guidance Officer

Hi, my name is Theresa Irving and students are welcome to call me by my first name. I am pleased to join the Townsville SHS team this year and have found the school community as a whole to be positive, hardworking, and with a very proud tradition.

In schools, the Guidance Officer is a support person involved with initiating, supporting and enhancing programs, career guidance, counselling and assisting with problems in learning adjustment and welfare. This leads to many and varied duties largely determined by negotiation between the guidance counsellor and the school community.

As the Guidance Officer, I act as a consultant, facilitator and personal counsellor in both individual and group settings providing a service to all members of the school community.

I am a teacher, with further qualifications as a Psychologist. Depending on the specific school needs my role may include:

**Career**
- Assisting students to explore career options and alternative career pathways.
- Assisting students with subject selection appropriate to their career direction through developing a Senior Education Training Plan (SET Plan).
- Providing students with current course and career information.
- Assisting students with the post-secondary application process (QTAC).
- Overseeing and supporting a whole school career education program from Year 7 to Year 12.

**Educational**
- Assisting in the transition to high school.
- Managing support either directly or indirectly for special needs groups.
- Liaising with Administration, staff and parents to meet the individual educational needs of students.
- Supporting programs designed to inform teachers and students about educational concerns e.g.: Study Skills; Qld Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC); Resilience; Qld Certificate of Education (QCE) or Qld Certificate of Individual Achievement (QCIA); Stress and Time Management.
- Assessing and providing psychometric testing to facilitate the verification process to meet particular student needs.

**Welfare**
- Offering counselling support for students, staff and parents where appropriate for issues such as: Crisis situations; Mental Health; Loss and Grief; Personal; Work related; Vocation and Education; Family Relationships; Stress; Anger and Behaviour
- Advocating for student needs whether individual, group or whole school.
- Assisting families with concerns.
- Assisting students with social development, e.g.: Peer Pressure; Problem solving; Decision Making; Relationships; Communication Skills
- Networking with outside agencies to meet individual and group needs.
- Referring students and families to outside agencies where necessary.

**Professional**
- Networking with peers and agencies to keep informed of trends and to gain professional information and support, e.g.: Department of Child Safety; Child & Youth Mental Health; Medical Professionals; Centacare – Reconnect; Headspace; Internal supports – School Based Nurse, Community Educational Counsellor, School Chaplain or Police Officer.

**Making an appointment**

Appointments are available through a number of means:

1. Contact me directly via phone (47218 777) or email (tirvi7@eq.edu.au) to organise an appointment.
2. Referrals can also be made through support services meetings (every Wed) – by Principal, Deputy Principals or members of staff.
3. Students can also self-refer by dropping into the Supports room temporarily in A3 or by noting their name on the booking sheet outside the room.

Thanks and looking forward to an amazing year.

Theresa Irving
Guidance Officer

**Junior Secondary**

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all new families and students to Townsville State High for 2015.

Junior secondary students were certainly off to a flying start on the 27th January when, by the end of the week, 137 year 7s and 75 year 8s had enrolled.

The first day ran smoothly despite the heat in the hall. There were many excited faces amongst the crowd as all year 7 students received a USB wristband in the colour of their reef to mark this special occasion. A tour of the junior secondary precinct and school grounds through the guidance of friendly tag teachers helped students to relax and feel right at home. Throughout the week it was a pleasure to see so many senior students act as mentors and take their young prodigies under their wings. This process assisted our year 7s and 8s to feel right at home in the high school system, minimizing the impact of their transition to a high school setting.

Junior students met their core teachers, reconnected with old friends and met new students. They have settled into their
refurbished rooms where teachers have set high expectations and a positive learning environment. The first of the positive behaviour lessons were also delivered ensuring a whole school approach will be undertaken to creating a positive and supportive learning environment throughout 2015.

Students then met with their reef groups to discuss tactics for winning the upcoming swimming carnival to be held on Wednesday 25th February. This meeting gave our junior students their first taste of the school spirit of which Town High is so proud.

Let’s read what some of our junior students’ had to say about their first week:

It was good. I liked the teachers because they were friendly and nice. Ramila Adhikari

It was good. I like all the teachers. It was easy to have fun because I wasn’t scared. Brianna Knight

I thought it was fun. You get to meet new friends and do subjects. Work was good. I was a bit worried but I soon got to know everything around the school as my big sister helped me. William Bann

It was great to come to school. I have enjoyed English and Japanese. I am in Farraday and I have a great USB now. Ina Tamwoy

It has been great to see all students so enthusiastic for the start of their learning year. I would like to say thank you to all our wonderful teachers for their whole-of-school commitment to ensuring a safe and supportive transition for our Junior secondary students. What an excellent start to 2015.

Denise Reeves
A/HOD Junior Secondary

Message from the Junior Secondary Deputy Principal

We are well and truly off and racing into 2015! There is a real buzz of excitement across the school with the staff and students enthusiastic about the year ahead. Welcome especially to our new students and their families. It is great to have you as a part of the Town High family. May your time with us be very rewarding and I wish you every success.

In Week 3 we are holding a “Meet and Greet” for Year 7 and 8 parents. I urge you to attend if possible so as to meet the teachers and to hear of their plans for your children for the year ahead. I’m sure many of you have questions about high school and how we can support your child.

We can all do small things each day to assist our children with further developing their Literacy and Numeracy skills. Below are some simple tips you may like to try:

Literacy Tip

Encourage your child/ren to read every day, including a variety of text types (e.g. novels, newspapers, magazines, brochures, etc). Visit the school/local library or if he/she has a birthday coming up you could purchase a subscription for a suitable magazine.

Numeracy Tip

Part of our ongoing work with the Australian Curriculum in Maths involves communication of mathematical explanations, calculations and solutions. Posing problems such as ‘best buys’ with the supply of shopping brochures is an ideal option. Challenge students to explain what they have been learning about in Maths and teach you by using some examples they create.

Chewing Gum – Parents please be advised that chewing gum is not permitted at school at any time. Please remind your child that they are not to bring this with them.

Robyn Harvey
Deputy Principal Junior Secondary

WELCOME TO TOWN HIGH YEAR 9 & 10 STUDENTS and PARENTS

Welcome to 2015! I want to introduce myself as I will be the Year Level Coordinator for both Year 9 and 10 this year. My name is Miss Strang. I teach HPE, SOSE and English, and you can find me in C Block Staffroom. I am looking forward to getting to know all of you, and to do what I can to make our mark on Town High. Feel free to come and see me if you have any awesome ideas for our year levels or you need help in some way. I can also be contacted by parents/caregivers through the school office on 47 218 777 or email jstra17@eq.edu.au

Looking forward to a great year and working with you.

Miss Strang
Years 9 & 10 Coordinator

Message from the Senior School Deputy Principal

Congratulations to all our seniors from 2014 who are now preparing to enter university, training and the workforce. We will be working very hard with our current Year 12 students to ensure that their pathways are well planned and that they too will be achieving success at the end of this year.

This year we will be tailoring support for our seniors, with the introduction of a Year 11/12 Co-ordinator, Miss Erin Matina and a Year 9/10 Coordinator, Miss Jessica Strang. Both Miss Matina and Miss Strang will work closely with the Reef Curriculum Advisors, the Senior Schooling Head of Department, the Student Support Services team and myself to deliver programs and services specifically designed for senior students.

2015 will be a year of high expectations. We will expect all senior students to have exemplary attendance and behaviour records, and outstanding academic results and we look forward to working with students and parents alike to achieve this.

Sadly, at the end of the year we said Farewell to Keeper Reef with the reduction to a four Reef system. The Reefs and their Reef Curriculum Advisors are:
Important Notice for Senior Students

Student on their P’s are not permitted to transport other students unless they are siblings. Students who drive to school are also reminded that they must comply with all parking provisions within the school and they must not leave school grounds during the day. Failure to follow this policy could result in school disciplinary action. The safety and wellbeing of all students is a priority for our school. If you have any questions regarding this policy please see Mrs Mladenovic.

Kaylene Mladenovic
Deputy Principal Senior Secondary

Message from the Acting Head of Senior Schooling and Wellbeing

Welcome back Townsville SHS senior students. This year is going to be a busy and exciting year for all senior students, especially with events like the Senior Induction Ceremony, Year 12 camp, Year 12 formal, QCS test, Year 11 Helping Friends program, Year 10 SET Planning and the Year 10 and 11 Leadership seminars. Year 12 Camp notes are due back and Year 12 students should have completed the intention form around the QCS test also.

As a new member of staff I am quickly getting to know the school and the senior students. My staffroom is in E14 and I am keen to work with students to develop successful pathways for them to achieve. I will be advertising opportunities for students on the school notices conveyed through TAG each morning and I encourage you to have conversations with your child about these opportunities, and their intentions post schooling.

I am really looking forward to this year and getting to know each and every student in the senior school and working with you to achieve your goals. Parents are welcome to contact me via email on khowa71@eq.edu.au.

Ms Kacie Howard
Acting HOD Senior School & Wellbeing

Positive Behaviour Support

PBS is a successful program used widely by schools in Australia and overseas. PBS has been in place at Town High since 2008.

The key themes of PBS are to teach, reinforce and reward appropriate behaviour. This is done at Town High by a series of short lessons that cover everything from how to come into the classroom, to how to avoid conflict with your peers. Lessons are delivered fortnightly.

One of the goals of PBS is that students will have a clear understanding of what the behaviour expectations are at Town High for any setting i.e. classroom or playground. Students who understand the ‘how and why’ of appropriate behaviour are less likely to do the wrong thing.

Lessons delivered so far this year have been on positive and negative consequences of behaviour at Town High and how these relate to the workplace. And on punctuality - what is it and why it is so important.

Parents can support the PBS program at Town High just by asking their child about PBS lessons.

Townsville State High School Student Dress Code

Below we have set out the rules on the school’s uniform policy as per the Student Diary. We expect all students to have the correct attire. If you have any concerns please contact the relevant Deputy Principal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNIOR SCHOOL (Years 7 to 9)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Girls</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shorts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skirt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoes/ Socks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boys</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirt</td>
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</table>
JUNIOR SCHOOL (Years 7 to 9)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shorts</td>
<td>Navy blue shorts with the school logo on the short leg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoes/Socks</td>
<td>Lace up sports shoes (See attached pictures for acceptable and unacceptable styles) White sport socks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A hat must be worn at ALL times when outside, including HPE lessons and lunch time activities.

SENIOR SCHOOL (Years 10 to 12)

**Girls**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shirt</td>
<td>Green and white striped shirt with school logo. Girls must also wear a clip-on tie in navy blue and green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skirt</td>
<td>Navy blue skirt with inverted box pleats (All girls’ skirts should be worn from the waist to near the knee, with blouse overlapping the skirt.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shorts</td>
<td>Navy blue shorts with the school logo on the short leg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoes/Socks</td>
<td>Lace up sports shoes (See attached pictures for acceptable and unacceptable styles) White sport socks</td>
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</table>

**Boys**

<table>
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</tbody>
</table>

A hat must be worn at ALL times when outside, including HPE lessons and lunch time activities.

**Winter – Boys and Girls Years 7 to 12**

1. Navy blue tailored long pants
2. The school jersey or navy blue zip-up fleecy lined or plain navy blue jumper without any logos
3. Navy, black or skin coloured tights may be worn under skirt

Jewellery & Make-up regulations

1. One plain signet ring may be worn
2. One plain chain may be worn
3. A plain wrist watch and/or a simple, metal bangle or bracelet, no wider than 2cm
4. Hair must be of a natural colour and be worn neat and tidy

Students not in a uniform are to carry a dated explanatory note from home and must have this note signed by the Tag teacher or Senior Administration.

Jewellery & Make-up regulations

1. If ears are pierced one small, plain stud or sleeper per ear, may be worn in the lobe of the ear only. No facial piercings are permitted

News from the Mathematics Department

Welcome back from 2015 from the Mathematics Department. We have had a number of staff changes this year to accommodate Year 7’s entering the school and to replace a number of teachers who have moved on to different schools. It looks to be another big year and all the teachers are looking forward to working with your children. As a part of this, all senior and Junior students should have received a letter of introduction, or the teacher may email you directly (if available). This letter outlines information about the course and invites you...
to email the teacher. This will allow the teacher to include your name on a distribution list to keep you updated on what is happening in the classroom.

This year the Mathematics Department is also providing all students in Years 7 & 8 a membership to the interactive Maths Website, IXL.com at no charge. This allows students to practice their Maths skills across all topics at a year level appropriate for the student. It is an ideal way for students who want to hone their skills, consolidate class work, or get extra practice for students who need additional help. As part of the school’s homework policy, the Department has also provided all junior students with a homework booklet. These booklets will be kept at school and used as weekly homework sheets to consolidate content covered in class. Students may also receive homework on a daily basis that will complement the work completed.

The Department will continue the IPad trial with the current Year 12 Maths B students. This technology provides extra opportunities for students to experience different topics and applications in Mathematics.

Some events occurring throughout the Year are a Year 7/8 Family Maths Night to be held in Week 6 of this term. This night gives a quick overview of Junior Mathematics and provides an opportunity to work with your child to solve some practical Mathematics problems. A letter will be sent home with further information closer to the date. Nominations will also be called for the Australian Mathematics Competition which will be held in Term 3.

If you have any concerns regarding Mathematics this year please do not hesitate to contact me on 47218714 or your child’s teacher.

Michael Hunter
Head of Department - Mathematics

Drama Club 2015

The Town High Drama Club will be up and running on Tuesday afternoons between 3 and 4pm in the Drama room (P05) as of Week 4! Auditions will be held at school in Week 3, where students will receive an information and permission letter. Specific audition times and information will be announced in TAG. The Drama club hopes to welcome back all existing members and take on an influx of new students from years 10, 11 and 12!

Miss Marsh.

Town High 5

This year Town High will be continuing our Town High 5 program aimed at boosting our student’s academic performance. Research shows that many factors contribute to the success of students attending high school. Town High has identified 5 key areas that students need to address in order to get the most out of their education and reach their potential.

1. Rest. Teenagers need a lot of sleep and sometimes have difficulty getting it. A well rested and alert student is most capable of meeting academic challenges.
2. Nutrition. Good food is vital fuel for the day. Eating the right food will ensure students have the energy needed to keep their brain working for the whole day.
3. Emotional Support. The teenage years are challenging times and students need to have someone encouraging and supporting them on a daily basis. Parent/carer interest and involvement in academic work really boosts results.
4. Attendance. Many things can stop school attendance, but missing school dramatically impacts on individual performance. Students and parents can develop strategies to ensure high attendance rates and therefore a maximum chance at success.
5. Gear for the day. It is hard to do a good job without the right tools. Students need to attend with the gear they need to get the job done. This includes correct uniform, lunch, books, pens & pencils, software and their homework done.

Each of the 5 areas have support documents on the school website townsvilleshs.eq.edu.au Look under the Support & Resources Tab /Forms & documents/ Town High 5 / Links to additional readings.

If students, parents & carers are attending to these 5 key areas, then they are maximising the opportunity for success at school.

Local News

Thuringowa Brass Band invites brass and percussion players of all ages and abilities to come and join us. We are your local community band, serving the community through music. Enjoy the music, enjoy the company! Visitors welcome. Rehearsing Monday nights (excluding public holidays) at the Thuringowa Soundshell (behind the Council offices) 7:15 for a 7:30pm start. For more info, phone the Secretary on 0419667933, email info@thuringowabrass.org, or just show up.

All Welcome!!
SIGN ON NOW FOR 2015
ANNANDALE FALCONS FOOTBALL CLUB
- Teams for U9-U16
- Training at Cranbrook Park, between Nathan St and Bergin Rd Cranbrook
- Registered for Get Started. Ask us if you are eligible to receive up to $150.00 off registration fees.

SIGN ON INFORMATION EVENINGS:
Tuesday 27th January & 3rd February 5.00-6.30pm at Cranbrook Park
GET HELP WITH GET STARTED
Thursday 29th January 5.00-6.00pm at Cranbrook Park
For more information visit: WWW.ANNANDALEFALCONS.ASN.AU
Or contact us at: secretary@annandalefalcons.asn.au Ph 0408 038 105
registration@annandalefalcons.asn.au Ph 0412 311 490

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Scientists in Schools  Mathematicians in Schools

Are you a scientist, IT professional or an engineer? Would you enjoy inspiring teachers and students in science, maths or information technology? Would you like to become a volunteer scientist, mathematician or IT professional?

We’re looking for scientists, mathematicians, engineers or IT professionals who are interested in working with staff and students – it would be great to have someone from our local community.

Scientists and Mathemicians in Schools use a broad definition of ‘scientist’ which includes professionals working in a science, maths, IT or engineering-related area; encompassing research and applied scientists, technologists and engineers, medical and allied health professionals and mathematicians.

There are no fixed hours – it’s up to you and the teacher to decide how you can contribute.

Register or find out more information online at www.scientistsinschools.edu.au

Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools is an Australian Government initiative, managed by CSIRO Education and Outreach.

If you’d like to contact the Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools in your region, they’re on 47788630 or email them at sci.math@csiro.au