15 July 2016

From the Principal

Welcome back to school for Term 3. I like to use a sporting analogy when I talk to students about the importance of Term 3. This is a particularly important term for our Year 12 students as we head towards Verification, but it applies to all students.

The analogy is about golf. Professional golf tournaments are played over four days. The third day of the tournament is referred to as “moving day”. This is the day in which the players attempt to position themselves on the leader board, ready for that final push to the end. If the moving day doesn’t go well, the end goal is harder to reach.

The school year for students is very similar. Students should be trying to position themselves academically this term, ready for the final push to the goals they want to achieve for the year.

The school is also pushing towards its goals in the three focus areas of Attendance, Building Literacy and Classroom Practices. Attendance continues to be a concern for some students. It is an area in which families can assist their child, and the school, by insisting that students attend school every lesson, every day.

2016 School Opinion Survey

The annual School Opinion Survey will be conducted 11 to 29 July 2016. All families, school staff and a random sample of students will be invited to participate. We encourage you to take this opportunity to have your say about what this school does well, and how this school can improve.

2016 Early School Leavers survey

The Queensland Government is conducting its annual state-wide survey of students who left school in Years 10, 11 and prior to completing Year 12 during 2015. The Early School Leavers survey is a short, confidential survey that collects information about what young people are doing the year after leaving school. The information from the survey helps our schools to understand the pathways young people follow after leaving school and to plan services to support transitions into study or employment for our students.

Between July and August 2016, our students who left school in Years 10, 11 and prior to completing Year 12 last year, can expect to receive an invitation to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician’s Office to complete the survey. Please encourage early school leavers to take part.

For more information, visit the link below or telephone toll free on 1800 068 587.


School Uniform

At the start of the term, it is timely to remind students and parents / carers that the school follows a Uniform Policy that is endorsed by the school P&C. The policy is available in the student diaries.

There are consequences for non-compliance with the school uniform policy. Under the school’s Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students, and the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006, permitted sanctions for non-compliance of the dress code include:

Great state. Great opportunity.
• Detention of the student for a period mentioned in section 283 (3) of the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006;
• Preventing the student from attending, or participating in, any activity for which the student would have been representing the school;
• Preventing the student from attending, or participating in, any activity that, in the reasonable opinion of the school’s Principal, is not part of the essential educational program of the school.

In particular I would like to mention that NO facial piercings are acceptable at Townsville State High School, and that hair must be of a natural colour.

Rob Slater
Principal

Important Information for All Parents

We have had some recent issues with parents accessing the front administration car park to drop off or collect their child/children. Please note the sign on the front gate which clearly states that THIS IS NOT A PICK UP OR DROP OFF ZONE.

All pick up and drop offs must occur in the designated areas (beside the school near the Chinese club, along Boundary St in front of the school, in First St behind Stanton Lodge).

We value your child’s safety and request you adhere to the designated pick up and drop off zones.

Townsville State High School Facebook Page

Our Facebook page has been active 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’


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!

Please remember that this page is used to provide all ‘likers’ with information about school events. Any queries regarding enrolments, absences, fees, reports & the like must go through the correct & official procedures – Please call the school office on 4721 8777.

Coming Events

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<td>NAIDOC Week Activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>21/07/16</td>
<td>RACI Chemistry Quiz</td>
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<tr>
<td>22/07/16</td>
<td>Junior Parade 11:05am</td>
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<td>28/07/16</td>
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<td>Shake &amp; Stir performance for Senior Students</td>
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<td>29/07/16</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival – Townsville Sports Reserve</td>
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<td>29/07/16</td>
<td>School Opinion Survey Closes</td>
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<td>02/08/16</td>
<td>Yr 11 &amp; 12 excursion to the Law Courts</td>
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<td>02/08/16</td>
<td>Yr 6 into 7 parent information evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>04/08/16</td>
<td>Homunculus performance for Drama Students</td>
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Payment of 2016 Textbook and Resource Hire Fees

Participation in the 2016 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 2016. 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 as soon as possible. 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: school 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

QParents Registration

Thank you to those parents/caregivers who have registered for ‘QParents’, which is a secure online parent portal. The online portal allows you to electronically notify the school of any student absence, check on the attendance and behaviour of your child, view a student’s current timetable and subjects, update contact details and receive any accounts for payment.

THE SYSTEM IS EXCELLENT AND HIGHLY RECOMMENDED TO YOU!

All parents/caregivers should have received a mail package and emails about how to complete registration. Please contact the office if you need any support to register.

From the Rolls Office

Student absences are to be explained by a parent/caregiver to the Rolls Officer 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.

PROCEDURES FOR LATE ARRIVAL/ EARLY DEPARTURE

Should a student arrive late to school, a letter of explanation or a note in the Student Diary from the student’s parent/carer is required. This letter or note must be presented to the Rolls Office if the student is arriving at school after 8:45am.

If there is a need to collect your student from school early, you must do so via the front office and sign your student out. A note should be written in your student’s Student Diary, the student then presents the note to the Student Counter before school. A Leave Request will be given. The student will show this to their teacher when they need to leave the class.

Lunch passes will NOT be approved. This applies to students of all year levels.

Students who feel unwell at school must first report to the class teacher who will direct them to the General Office with a note to this effect. During morning or lunch time recesses, students should report directly to the Office.

Facilities for housing sick students are limited. Sick bay is used as a holding station only. Please ensure your contact details are up to date so that we can phone parents and send students home as quickly as possible.

Students late to school

Recently we have noticed an increase in the number of students coming late to school. Can we please remind you that if a student is late, they need a letter of explanation to be presented to the main office on arrival.

It is important that students arrive to school on time each day in order for them to be prepared for their classes. Many students are missing TAG which means that they are not getting notices

Would you like to:

- check your child’s timetable on your phone, tablet or computer?
- access your child’s report cards online?
- pay school invoices online with a credit card?
- notify the school of your child’s absences and monitor attendance?
- engage more closely with your child’s school?

Visit qparents.qld.edu.au to find out more.
and messages from their teachers. This can mean that they are late to classes or miss out on notes to go home.

We value your students’ learning. Please continue to work with us to achieve the best possible outcomes for your child/ren.

Junior Secondary News

Welcome back to Term 3!

We are looking forward to yet another fantastic term, which promises to be full of exciting opportunities for excellence. I was so proud of the junior students who received awards at our Junior Awards Parade at the end of Term 2, and I encourage all students to give it their absolute best to be in the running for awards this term.

I would like to extend a massive thank you to our Junior School leaders who attended the Railway Estate State School Athletics Carnival to offer a helping hand to the Railway Estate staff and students at the end of Term 2. We are always looking to develop our excellent community partnerships and this was a great opportunity for our students. Well done!

This year we have two junior teams participating in the OptiMinds competition, which will be held at James Cook University on Sunday 21st August. Both teams have nominated to enter the Science and Engineering Challenge. They will be working hard this term to sort out their response to the challenge as they prepare to take on other schools from the northern region.

This term we are also looking into opportunities for our junior students to be more active in our student leadership roles, and we’ll be gearing up to elect our Junior School Captains for 2017, as well as peer leadership positions. Students with an interest in furthering their leadership skills should be thinking about what they can offer as a student leader at Townsville State High School, and listening out for notices on how to take the first step into a leadership position.

Stay tuned to notices and our Facebook page for more updates on our Junior Secondary programs!

Let’s make it a fantastic term!

Tom Harvey
Acting HOD Junior Secondary

Senior Secondary News

Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE)

The Queensland government set a goal that 100% of graduating year 12 students should leave high school with a QCE. Last year Townsville State High School was one of only a few high schools in the district to meet that goal.

But what is the QCE? The QCE is Queensland’s senior schooling qualification. This internationally recognised qualification is achievement based. To gain their QCE senior students must meet a set standard of learning and meet both literacy and numeracy requirements. The QCE recognises that students undertake a diverse range of studies throughout their senior schooling and, by doing so, allows students to choose a learning path that best suits their desired schooling outcome.

The QCE:

- recognises the achievements of senior students,
- shows employers and training providers that students have worked consistently and to a high standard
- may be required to enrol in further education and training in Queensland, interstate and overseas

How do senior students meet the set standards? To gain credits in their chosen course of study, students must meet a minimum of either a Sound Achievement or Competent (depending on the course’s type of assessment grade). Senior students are able to gain credits in the following range of learning options:

- School subjects
- Vocational education and training (VET)
- School-based traineeships (SBT) or school-based apprenticeships (SBA)
- TAFE courses, certificates or diplomas
- Enrichment courses

Townsville State High School is proud of the achievements of our senior students and our goal is to maintain our 100% QCE attainment. Should you wish to learn more about the QCE, please talk to either our school Guidance Officer, the Deputy Principal of Senior Schooling, or myself. You can also visit the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) at the link below, or, Student Connect at the link below. We will be presenting information on the QCE during our upcoming Parent/Teacher evening on 9th March 2016.

http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/

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.

Uniform Changes for Senior Students

Please note the changes for the senior uniform. It is now compulsory for all students in Years 10, 11 & 12 to wear the Senior shirt no polo shirts are acceptable.

Kaylene Mladenovic
Deputy Principal Senior School
Unique Student Identifier (USI)

ALL STUDENTS YEARS 10, 11 AND 12

If applying for a USI at home complete the Student Form - USI Collection and Verification to record this information and return to the front office.

From 1 January 2015, the Australian Government requires all students studying Vocational Education and Training (VET) to have a Unique Student Identifier (USI). This includes students who are studying VET in schools. Townsville State High School must have a valid USI for a student before issuing a qualification or statement of attainment.

What is a USI?

From 2015, anyone undertaking a Vocational Education and Training course (eg: through TAFE or other training providers, but not University) will need to have a “Unique Student Identifier” (USI) - this is a bit like an account number made up of letters and numbers and is allocated to you. It is used to identify you when undertaking any vocational training from 2015.

This USI allows you to login to your training account and see all your training records and the results of all your courses. You can also print out all your results to take to an employer when you are applying for a job or to any training provider when you are doing any additional courses.

You should have this Unique Student Identifier before you can commence any courses and must have it to obtain your certification or statement of attainment. If you don’t already have one, you can create one at:


At Townsville SHS we will be assisting students with the application for their USI. Students’ must provide suitable identification through one of the following:

- Driver’s licence
- Medicare card
- Birth Certificate (Australian) — please note a birth certificate extract is not sufficient
- Australian Passport
- Visa (with Non-Australian Passport) for international students
- Certificate Of Registration By Descent
- Citizenship Certificate
- ImmiCard

Each learner at Townsville State High School will either be required to provide their existing USI (if not already on record at the RTO) or apply for a USI. Students can access the USI Fact Sheets from the school’s web page and also the school’s curriculum network.

Each student who enrolls in a VET course will need to complete the following:

Action 1. The student applies for a USI at home

- The school sends home information about the USI and what the process will be for application and provision through Newsletters and Parent Information letters
- Students obtain a USI at home via the website http://www.usi.gov.au/
- The student provides the USI to the school using the USI Collection and Verification form
- The school verifies the USI via the website http://www.usi.gov.au/
- The school records the USI, inputs this information into the Student Management System or record in the USI Register

Action 2. The student applies for a USI at the school

- The school sends home information about the USI and what the process will be for application and the types of identification that will be required by the learner
- Students apply at the school during a set class time with the assistance of the staff
- Students will record their USI and provide the number to the teacher using the USI Collection and Verification form
- The school verifies the USI via the website http://www.usi.gov.au/
- The school records the USI, inputs this information into the Student Management System or record in the USI Register

Sed Moulds
Head of Technology
Readers Cup Wrap

June 16 was a big day for our reading warriors. First up was a trip to Thuringowa library to meet with Australian children’s author James Moloney. James shared his experiences of reading and writing; including insights into his competition novel, Disappearing Act. We discovered that James would be the quiz master for the competition. Despite our concerted questioning he wouldn’t reveal any information about what we might expect from the questions.

That evening we gathered with hundreds of students and parents at Ryan Catholic College for the competition. After weeks of reading, preparing and dolly oblong making . . . this was it! Five fast and furious rounds of questions. Most questions were met with smiles and high fives, occasionally there were scowls and whispered discussions. (Who knew email was considered a ‘social media’? Not us!) The fantastic five – Keziah, Sophie, Evan, Dylan and Lorraine – finished a fabulous fourth!

Note from Ms Anderson: For those of you like me who have no idea, a dolly oblong is a paper totem or mascot. See below

Sue Anderson
Acting Head of Department – English

News from the Science Department

Ten of our students attended the Global Tropics Future Young Scholars program last week at JCU. During the day they experimented with cell surface area and absorption, DNA extraction and viewing cells under a microscope. All the students enjoyed the time and gained a greater understanding of cells. They are looking forward to the next event, developing sensors, next term. Thank you to JCU and Global Tropics Future Young Scholars program for the day.

News from the Arts Department

It’s Almost Here!

Town High’s annual musical production is almost upon us! Over the Hill is less than seven weeks away!

The musical follows a group of residents at Shady Pines retirement home who attempt to raise money for Gerald’s much needed hip replacement. With songs from the 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s and today, this is sure to be a show with something for everyone.

Want to come? Then buy a ticket! They are only $5 and available from the office at school. There are performances on Thursday the 25th, Friday the 26th and Saturday the 27th of August. Don’t miss out!
The year 11 and 12 Drama students were treated with an excursion to the Theatre in June. Full Throttle Theatre Company’s ‘Three Courses in Theatre’ was a presentation of three plays in three different styles that the students have been learning about. The plays included, ‘The Marriage Proposal’ by Anton Chekov in the style of Realism, ‘A Respectable Wedding’ by Bertolt Brecht in the style of Epic Theatre and ‘The Lesson’ by Eugene Ionesco in the style of Absurd Theatre. The students who attended learnt a great deal about these styles – there really is nothing better than viewing live theatre.

National Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

Dear parents/carers,

Collecting data on school students with disability helps teachers, principals and education authorities support the participation of students with disability in schooling on the same basis as students without disability.

All Australian Governments have agreed to work together on the annual collection of data on school students with disability.

All Australian schools participate in this annual data collection. The data provided to the Australian Government is aggregated data only. Please be reassured that the Department will not provide on to another organisation any data that can identify an individual student. The only data being collected at the school level to be reported nationally is the:

- number of students in the school who are provided with an adjustment to address a disability;
- level of adjustments we provide for those students; and
- broad category of disability.

Consultation with parents is important not only for the data collection but also to ensure you are aware of the adjustments being provided to support your child. We will therefore continue to consult with you.

While only data that cannot identify your child will be submitted outside of the Department, if you do not wish for your child’s details to be included, please let me know.

Information and fact sheets are available to help you make a decision from the:


Alternatively, if you have any queries about the collection or use of this data I encourage you to contact me directly.

Denise Reeves
A/HOD Diverse Learning

News from the HPE Department

INTER-REEF ATHLETICS CARNIVAL FRIDAY 29th JULY 2016

Well it is on again! The great Annual Townsville State High School Inter-Reef Athletics Carnival where students put their body on the line in the quest to be the fastest person on land. This is a normal school day and all students are expected to attend. Maximum participation is about having fun and supporting your Reef and having a go!

VENUE: Red Track (Townsville Sports Reserve) – Paxton Street, North Ward
DATE: Friday 29th July 2016
TIME: 8.45am – 2.30pm
TRANSPORT: All students have a number of options as to how they will make their way to and from the Sports Reserve:-

1. Find their own transport to and from the Townsville Sports Reserve.
2. Catch their normal school bus that will drop students near the red track (Townsville Sports Reserve) and pick them up near the red track (Townsville Sports Reserve) in the afternoon if their bus route goes near this venue or if you are able to use a bus that goes to Townsville Grammar School.
3. Catch a bus from Townsville SHS to the sports reserve and back. Students travelling from school to the sports reserve and back will need to pay $3.00 as they get on the bus (this covers the trip to the track and back) and they must hand their signed permission form to the teacher as they get on the bus. Four (4) buses will leave the school at 8:45am and return by 2.50pm and one (1) bus will leave at 9.00/9.05am to transport normal bus students to the venue.

ALL BUSES WILL LEAVE FROM THE BOUNDARY STREET ENTRANCE TO THE SCHOOL/FRONT OF THE SCHOOL at these times.

Students are to arrive at the Athletics Carnival (Townsville Sports Reserve) by 9.00am and will not be admitted after 9.20am. They will not be allowed to leave the venue before 2.30pm. Students may buy their lunch at the sports reserve or bring their own lunch. (They will not be allowed to leave the venue to buy lunch.) Students are encouraged to dress appropriately in the spirit of their Reef colours and wear a hat. Water and sunscreen will be supplied throughout the day.

PLEASE NOTE: - Hair spray, coloured zinc and body paint is NOT ALLOWED at this this carnival as the venue will charge a cleaning fee if these items are used in the stands.
A great day is assured for all – more importantly it is another great opportunity to show participation, citizenship and leadership. The interschool Athletics Team will be formed at the conclusion of this carnival to compete at the Interschool Athletics Days on Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th August (Week 6 of Term Three) at the Sports Reserve.

Parental Consent and Information Letters will be sent home through Tag this week. Please contact Mr Williamson at the school on 47 218 777 if you have any questions regarding the day.

M. Williamson
Sports Coordinator

News from the CEC

• Mabo Day celebrates the High Court’s historic judgement delivered on 3 June 1992, accepting the claim from Eddie “Koiki” Mabo and the other claimants that their people had occupied the island of Mer before the arrival of the British.

http://www.mabonativetitle.com/home.shtml

• On Wednesday 1st June Townsville State High School’s Year 12 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander students undertook the Talk Up Training that was facilitated by Sam Reuben (Senior Project Officer) from Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnership.

The Talk Up Training provides our students with emotional intelligence training that gives them self-confidence, motivation and self-esteem. The training is based on combatting the students fears and positive thinking and preparing them to think differently about themselves in facing the real world of employment. (I have some photos attached that you can choose from)

JUNIOR SCHOOL (Years 7 to 9)

Girls

Shirt - Polo style T-Shirt in bottle green and navy blue with the school logo on the pocket.
Shorts - Navy blue shorts with the school logo on the short leg
Skirt - Navy blue skirt with inverted box pleats
Shoes/Socks - Lace up sports shoes (See attached pictures for acceptable and unacceptable styles) White sport socks

Boys

Shirt - Polo style T-Shirt in bottle green and navy blue with the school logo on the pocket.
Shorts - Navy blue shorts with the school logo on the short leg
Shoes/Socks - Lace up sports shoes (See attached pictures for acceptable and unacceptable styles) White sport socks

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

SENIOR SCHOOL (Years 10 to 12)

Girls

Shirt - Green and white striped shirt with school logo. Girls must also wear a clip-on tie in navy blue and green
Skirt - 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.)
Shoes/Socks - Lace up sports shoes (See attached pictures for acceptable and unacceptable styles) White sport socks

Boys

Shirt - Green and white striped shirt with school logo
Shorts - Navy blue shorts with the school logo on the short leg
Shoes/Socks - Lace up sports shoes (See attached pictures for acceptable and unacceptable styles) White sport socks

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

Students not in a uniform are to carry a dated explanatory note from home and to have this note signed by the relevant Deputy Principal

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

NB: Earrings (stud or sleepers) are the ONLY acceptable form of body piercing allowed.

General Items:

Safety Standards As required by Curriculum Activity Risk Management, safety standards involving footwear, hair, jewellery, must also be met.

Hair Hair must be of a natural colour and must be worn in a style which meets school community standards.

Headwear Hijabs / head coverings are to be no longer than shoulder length and must be navy blue in colour.

Tattoos Tattoos are not permitted. Students representing the school on official excursions/activities are to wear full Representative Dress school uniform, unless notified otherwise.

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.

Smoking banned 5 metres around school grounds

Smoking any tobacco products or using an electronic cigarettes within five metres of any state or private school grounds has been banned. This applies before, during and after school hours as well as over weekends and school holidays.

On the spot fines can be issued by environmental health officers, police or other officers authorised by the local government to anyone found in breach of this legislation.

The ban does not extend to businesses or residences that share a property boundary with a school.

Smokers are asked to put out your cigarette and dispose of the litter thoughtfully well before you reach the school boundary.