From the Principal

It is always so nice to receive positive feedback about the students from our school. On Wednesday 24th February our students attended the annual inter-Reef swimming carnival. At the end of the day I was approached by staff from the Long Tan Pool who mentioned how well behaved the students had been, and how clean they had left the stands.

That capped off an excellent day in which I got to observe large numbers of our students attempting to be the best that they can be in the pool. It was great to see so many of them getting in and having a go. The Reef team-spirit was overwhelming with coloured clothing and war cries. A really fabulous day all around.

Lions Youth of the Year – Congratulations

That night some of our students followed a day at the pool with the Lions Youth of the Year competition. I am pleased to say that the feedback from the evening was really good. The overall winner Renny Miller, will be representing us in the zoned competition next month. Well done to all the students involved.

North Queensland Schools Constitutional Convention for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students - Congratulations

Recently four of our students were involved in this competition and a big congratulations to them. Kali Close was the winner of the North Queensland Schools Convention. She will now be one of 23 students who will participate in the National Schools Constitutional Convention that will take place in Canberra in March of this year.

Parent Teacher Conversations / Interviews

Parent Teacher Conversations or Interviews are really useful as a basis for parents to find out about:

- How your child is progressing in each key learning area
- What successes and improvements your child experienced during term 1
- How we can work together to continue to improve learning outcomes for your child

I invite all parents to attend these conversations with teachers on Wednesday 9th March. If you are unable to attend on that day, you are most welcome to contact teachers to discuss such things at other times.

Don't forget our 2016 Messages for the Students

- Be the best that you can be
- Every Day Counts
- Assessment is not negotiable

I am trying to highlight to our students that if they attend their classes, try the best that they can, and complete all assessment, then their chances of success go up. It’s a simple message that sometimes gets lost in the dramas of everyday life. Hopefully by highlighting it to the students, we can encourage them to focus on their learning.

Rob Slater
Principal
**School Office Hours**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>8:00am – 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8:00am – 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>8:00am – 3:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8:00am – 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8:00am – 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08/03/16</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting – 6:30pm Administration Office</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.

*Narelleearston*

*Business Services Manager*
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/caregiver 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. Your student needs to know a contact number so that we can phone parents and send students home as quickly as possible.

Does Attendance Really Matter?

1 or 2 days a week doesn’t seem much but ........

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If your child misses</th>
<th>That means</th>
<th>Which is</th>
<th>and over 13 years of</th>
<th>Which means the best year your child might perform in</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day per fortnight</td>
<td>10 mins per yr</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 years</td>
<td>Low (below grade 4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>10 mins per yr</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 3.5 years</td>
<td>High (grade 7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 days per month</td>
<td>10 mins per yr</td>
<td>10 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 3.5 years</td>
<td>High (grade 7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 days per month</td>
<td>10 mins per yr</td>
<td>10 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 3.5 years</td>
<td>High (grade 7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How about 10 minutes late a day? Surely that won’t affect my child?

If you want your child to be successful at school then YES, attendance does matter!

‘Every Day Counts!!’

IT’S NOT OKAY TO BE AWAY!

The way you train is the way you play: if you miss training or train poorly, then you’ll perform below your potential. Attending classes and applying yourself well follows exactly the same principles.
Developing gaps in a students’ knowledge base severely restricts both his/her understanding and progress. It is difficult enough to make up lost ground when a student is genuinely ill, but verging on impossible when he or she is absent for unjustifiable reasons. Such condoned absences also show a state of mind that places a low value on a child’s education.

The days of starting at the bottom of an organisation and working your way up are virtually gone. Entry for most jobs and careers relies on a certain level of education and both the willingness and capacity to pursue further training.

Should you require support in saying NO to your son or daughter in regard to any absences other than illness, please contact the school immediately.

We can all work together to make a difference to your child’s future.

Robyn Harvey
A/Deputy Principal School Improvement

Junior Secondary News

Message from the Junior Secondary Deputy Principal

There are many factors that assist students to be successful in school. The ‘Town High Five’ (see page 17 in your student’s diary) identifies five key areas that families can address in order to ensure that their student is getting the most out of their education and reaching their fullest potential.

The ‘Town High Five’ are:

1. **Rest.** Teenagers need a lot of sleep. A well rested and alert student performs best in class.
2. **Nutrition.** Good food is vital fuel for the day. Eating the right food will ensure you have the energy needed to keep your brain working.
3. **Emotional Support.** Students need to have someone encouraging and supporting them on a daily basis. Parent/carer involvement in school really boosts results.
4. **Attendance.** Missing school dramatically impacts on student performance. Regular attendance boosts results.
5. **Gear for the day.** It is hard to do a good job without the right tools. Students need to attend with all the gear they need to get the job done.

If you need any assistance supporting your student in these areas don’t hesitate to contact our student support services team.

Tanya Nelson
Junior Secondary Deputy Principal

Junior Secondary Report

We are now well into the new school year and we are happy to say that it has been a positive start! Over the coming weeks and term there are many exciting and rewarding opportunities for our junior students. We’ve already welcomed our newest students into our school community with the **Year 7 Meet and Greet Welcome Barbecue**, which was in Week 3, and we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of the parents and carers who made it out for a chat with our staff.

**What’s coming up this month?**

We’d like to celebrate the fantastic work of many of our junior students at our first **Junior Awards Parade**, which will be held from **10.15am in the Hall on Friday 4th March**. Parents and carers of our Year 7 to 9 students are welcome to attend this celebration of the persistent and positive work ethic that our junior students are already bringing to the party.

Secondly, we have an empowering and uplifting day of physical and mental challenges for our Year 7 students coming up in **Week 9**, when they are encouraged to attend the **Be the Change Leadership Challenge** on **Tuesday March 22nd**. This day of activities at Townsville’s Riverway complex will prepare students to take on the challenges of being leaders and team players, encouraging positive self-talk and building resilience. Students will be taken from school to Riverway by Campbell’s Coaches, and they will participate in an ‘Amazing Race’, stand-up paddle-boarding, raft building, kayaking, and slack-lining, all overseen by the expert guidance of staff from Outer Limits Adventures. Participation is only **$30 per student**, and promises a day of adventure and fun.

Finally, every year Town High hosts a massive charity fundraiser for the **World’s Greatest Shave for a Cure**, where staff and students alike put their locks on the line to be shaved to raise money for cancer research. This is always a lot of fun and many of our students love to get involved. For a **$3 donation**, students can have their **hair coloured** with aerosol hair dye (washes out with shampoo), or for the really brave, a **$20 donation** will book them a date with the ‘clippers’ to have their head shaved. All proceeds go to this worthwhile cause. The Shave for a Cure Parade is on **Friday 11th March** in the Hall.

In Week 5, students in Years 7 and 8 had their first round of immunisations, which went smoothly and the Queensland Health nurses said that it was “one of the best school visits we’ve done.” A big thank you to all of the parents, carers, and students who managed to get forms back to us on time to ensure that the day ran smoothly. The second round of vaccinations will be on 26th April, which is in Week 3 of next term.

As we near the end of our first school term, it is likely that students will be bringing home lots of homework and assessment tasks, and it is important that they manage their time effectively to avoid having everything piling up. Now is a great time to have a chat about time management and planning for success with your junior students to make sure they are aware of the demands of assessment, and to check that they understand what they need to know and do to succeed in each task.

Tom Harvey
Junior Secondary Head of Department
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 www.qcaa.qld.edu.au, or, Student Connect at www.studentconnect.qcaa.qld.edu.au, We will be presenting information on the QCE during our upcoming Parent/Teacher evening on 9th March 2016.

Steve Gowdy
A/Head of Department Senior School

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)

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 www.usi.gov.au.

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 enrols 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 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 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 www.usi.gov.au
- The school records the USI, inputs this information into the Student Management System or record in the USI Register

---

**News from the English Department**

**The news in English**

**Getting Assessment Done!**

Rapidly approaching due dates remind us Term 1 is almost done. Students have their task sheets and are working in class and at home to ‘get their assessment done’. For some students this time of term is a walk in the park; for others it’s a slog through a swamp. To prevent assessment meltdown, its best to view writing as a process and break up the work into manageable steps.

The writing process involves five distinct steps. Using these steps will ensure your assessment is heading in the ‘write’ direction!

---

The Writing Process

1. **Prewriting: Getting It Together**
   - Prewriting is everything you do to get ready to write: planning, outlining, studying, brainstorming, interviewing, mind-mapping, note-taking, etc.

2. **Drafting: Getting It Down**
   - Drafting is composing the first draft of your paper. This is sometimes called the rough draft because it’s not important that the draft be perfect. The main thing is to get words on paper.

3. **Revising: Getting It Right**

4. **Proofreading: Getting It Polished**
   - Proofreading means fixing all the pesky little things: spelling, grammar, punctuation. Get out the fine-toothed comb. Bert all the I’s and cross all the T’s.

5. **Publishing: Getting It Read**
   - Publishing means getting your writing to the audience you intended. That might be just a teacher or a parent, or it might mean posting it on a blog or in a major publication.

---

Interested in turning your assessment into cash? There are a number of competitions you should consider entering. For more details talk to your teacher or see the English noticeboard outside E04.

- **Rostrum Voice of Youth competition** encourages students to develop their oral communication skills, increase their self-esteem and self-confidence and to provide them with an avenue to speak out on topics that are important to them. Entries close 25 March.

- **2016 Schools Writing Competition** is open to all year levels. Students are invited to enter an original poem or short story on any theme. Let your imagination run wild! Entries close 31 March.

- **Future Leaders Writing Prize** is open to Year 11 and 12 students. Students are to submit a piece of writing (800 to 1000 words). The writing can be fiction or non-fiction and on any topic. Submissions are due 30 May.

---

After a full day of sun and fun at the swimming carnival, five of our senior students participated in the Lions Youth of the Year Competition. This competition is designed to encourage student interest in leadership and citizenship. This year we had
five fantastic participants: Lorrie Salomon, Talysa Harrison, Ronan Keogh, Nicholai Hammer and Renny Miller.

The competition involved a 20 minute interview, two impromptu speeches and a prepared five minute speech on a topic of the students’ choosing. It was a wonderful evening of entertainment and talent!

Congratulations to Renny who was the overall winner and will go on to represent Town High next month in the zone competition.

Congratulations also to Ronan who won the public speaking component of the evening.

Well done to all five - it’s not an easy task to speak on an unprepared topic! Town High is very proud of you!

---

**Sue Anderson**  
*Acting Head of Department – English*

---

**News from the Science Department**

---

**National Youth Science Forum Report**  
Lorrie Salomon  
Rotary District 9550  
Session C 2016 – Canberra

---

If I had to use one word to describe the experience I had at the National Youth Science Forum, one word would not be enough. To be honest, I had a bit of an idea what NYSF would be like; this is from watching videos from the NYSF YouTube page and reading the reports from previous years in the NYSF website. However, when I arrived at the Australian National University for NYSF 2016, it was more than I ever expected.

I first learned of the NYSF through a former attendee who spoke on the whole school assembly. The way he described his experiences left me intrigued and interested. I then spoke to my science teacher (Ms Chapman) and she strongly recommended me to attend the National Youth Science Forum. To be selected to attend, I first applied for the NYSF through the website and requested to talk with my local Rotary Club of Magnetic Island.

An interview was organised and after a few weeks I had a phone call saying that Rotary Club Magnetic Island accepted me. The second process was the district selections; in this interview we were asked questions in regards to science and society. I was interviewed separately along with 12 other Year 11 students from across District 9550. I was thrilled to find out that after a couple of weeks that I, along with five other students would be attending the forum in January. The Rotary Club of Magnetic Island agreed to sponsor me, where my parents paid $1,475 and the club paid the other $1,475. After my assessments were finished for the year, I attended my rotary club meeting. This was when I thanked them for their sponsorship and talked about the selection process.

My NYSF experience began on the 17th January; I flew to Brisbane and met my host (Olivia Millard) where I had the opportunity to roam around for a few hours. That evening we boarded a coach to Canberra, which consisted of a 22 hour bus ride. Throughout the bus ride, I met a few students and some of the staff. After multiple stops, we finally arrived at Burgmann College on the 18th January. We stayed on campus, for 12 days and the timetable we had was packed with lectures, lab visits, briefings, formal events and social events. On the way back home I had to catch the North Coach to Brisbane and a flight from Brisbane to Townsville, reaching home on the 31st of January.

The National Youth Science Forum is a program for students moving into year 12 who are thinking about a career in science, technology, engineering or mathematics. NYSF brings 400 students to Canberra for a 12-day science experience. The NYSF is about inspiring futures, meeting leading scientists and researchers, developing our communication and personal skills, meeting challenges, facing problems and finding solutions. The NYSF is inspiring and motivating, and produces students who are keen to do the best they possibly can in the future, and the program is a huge credit to its sponsors. The NYSF experience was inspiring and motivating. It encourages students to do the best they possibly can in the future as it is a huge credit to its sponsors.

In the short period of time I spent in Canberra, it provided me so much, such as the privilege of talking to scientists and researchers, being exposed to cutting-edge research and development and many more. I learnt what it means to be a scientists or an engineer while forming friendships with like-minded students all across Australia.

The program consisted of three formal events: the opening ceremony in Parliament House, Rotary Dinner and Science Dinner; this was when we had the chance to listen to leading scientists in Australia, where they talked about their experience on how they followed their dream and inspired all students to follow their passion in science. The speakers gave an insight as to how important science communication is in business, everyday life and how knowledge of science is needed in every professional job.

The lectures and workshops were immensely helpful in developing our personal skills and communication to prepare us for university and jobs. Some of my favourite lectures were Science in Society, Ethics in Society and Diversity in Science. The workshops that were presented by the NYSF staff were excellent; the Critical Thinking, Entrepreneurial and Think Big workshops just to name a few that engaged me to think where science may lead you. The labs I visited with my interest group (Earth and Environmental Science - Carson) were very insightful in demonstrating how science can have such a big effect on the environment. In the NYSF, I had the opportunity to visit the NASA Deep Space Communication Complex, Geoscience Australia, ANU Research School of Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Science Research, visiting the National Zoo and Aquarium and Fossil Digging. From all this lab visits, lectures and workshops, I learned that communication is crucial in everything. I had to present a five minute speech and an impromptu speech in front of my interest group. We all gave and received constructive criticism on our performance and for this, it will definitely assist us in the future, whether we are entering university or applying for a job. Personally, I gained confidence in my communication and acquired information,
which will support me in all aspects of my life and not just my studies.

The social events were great for meeting people, making new friends and bonding us students together. This created the atmosphere where everyone you can get along and learn a lot about each other, which made the forum remarkably enjoyable and rewarding. The social events that were a highlight for me were the Science Relay Quiz, Swing Dance, Evening activities and visiting Questacon. The friends you make are a significant part of what makes the NYSF such a memorable experience and the friends I made will always be a part of me.

Participating in the National Youth Science Forum was the best decision I made. Looking back on what I have achieved, I can say that I have more confidence about myself and my future, I have gained a wealth of knowledge and I’m now more driven to pursuing my goals. My NYSF experience changed my outlook on science, study and work life. I built friendships and made a lot of new friends. I also met interesting people who continue to inspire me to improve as a student and as a person. Remembering on the first day, they said that you will not be the same person as you are by the end of NYSF, I did not believe them. But now I realised why they said that. The NYSF has truly changed me for the better. The forum has introduced me to a future career in science, and motivated me to try my hardest in year 12 and further studies.

I would like to thank ALL of the people who made it possible for me to experience NYSF. Thank you for my science teacher – Ms Chapman who introduced me to NYSF, you were very supportive in the application process. My supporting Rotary Club of Magnetic Island and their members, I thank you for your sponsorship. Without rotary’s sponsorship, the forum wouldn’t even exist. Lastly, I would like to thank the friends and family members who supported me the whole way in the National Youth Science Forum.

Lorrie Salomon

---

Computers in the classroom

Students often access computers in the classroom as part of their course requirements. They, on the whole, treat this valuable school resource with care. However, there are times when damage occurs: a cable is tampered with; a key on the keyboard dislodged or other practices which cause damage to happen. Should a student deliberately damage a computer parents will be liable for the cost of repairs.

Students are aware, that at the beginning of the lesson, that they need to report any computer faults to their teacher.

Sed Moulds

Head of Technology

What’s happening in the Arts Faculty?
Town High was very lucky to have George Gittoes visit our school and speak to the senior art students. He spoke about his recent work in Afghanistan, his paintings and the significance of the creative arts in Australia. Gittoes spoke candidly about why he spends time working with people in conflict zones and how he has established art schools [The Yellow House] in these areas to educate children and change lives through art. He is an extraordinary man who believes in his art and the part artistic expression and creative thinking in giving the next generation more than just a history of war and struggle. Students responded very well to his presentation with many staying back after the lecture to speak to him one on one.

Gittoes was here to open an exhibition he currently has on at the Perc Tucker Gallery in Flinders Street and encourage you all to go a see this iconic Australian artist’s work before it is gone. You will be moved by the size of his work, his passion for life and his application of media.

Ms Cutting would like to thank the staff at Perc Tucker Gallery for their help in bringing this significant, contemporary artist to Town High. The students have already been influenced by his work, his commitment and his enthusiasm.

The extracurricular music program is well under way with choir, vocal ensemble and the instrumental music program! Many students have already blown us away with performances on assembly and students have been working hard before school and during lunch times to perfect their musical talent.

The Drama Club are working hard devising one act plays for the North Queensland Festival of One Act Plays. The festival takes place on the 6th-8th of March, so why not purchase a ticket by contacting Ticket Shop and support our talented actors!

Town High’s annual musical is also underway with the Arts staff madly writing an original script! Auditions and rehearsals will begin in term 2, so stay tuned for that!

Bronwyn Marsh
Drama Teacher

News from the Japanese Department

This term our Year 7 classes have been introduced to Japanese looking at likes, dislikes & family. Week 6 and Week 7 will see students complete their first assessment items for Japanese with an oral presentation and a reading exam.

Year 8 classes have continued on with their Japanese studies looking at and comparing Australian and Japanese schools and daily routines. They are working towards completing an oral assessment for this term.

Year 9 and 10 have been combined for the first time this year with it challenging our students on various levels. The students have been looking at fashion from around the world and will soon be presenting their Fashion Parade and portfolios due Week 8 and 9.

Senior Japanese will also be completing their exams in Week 8 and 9 as they still continue to learn Kanji and about school and themselves.

Next term nominations for the Annual Townsville and District Speaking Competition will be called for all Year levels. Students who would like to have this opportunity to represent our school should see their Japanese teachers to put their names down. Also nominations for the ACER Japanese language Certificates will be open, this is a paid event and students who take part receive a certificate providing them a level in listening and reading. More details will be available about both of these events next term.

Our 2016 Japan Tour is slowly taking shape, deposits have been paid and our seats are booked on Qantas. We have had our first meeting with students to begin our preparation for the tour. Please remind your student that these lunch time meetings are compulsory and all students need to attend.

A parental meeting will be held Wednesday 16th March (Week 8), please book this into your diary, a reminder will also be sent out.

If you would like to find out more about assessment, competitions or the Japan Tour, please don’t hesitate to contact our Japanese Department.

Peta Hearn
Languages Coordinator

Tropics News

Congratulations

A number of Tropics players have recently won representative honours.

These students have been selected in the 18 years and under NQ team to play in the secondary school championships later this year.

Boys: Rohan Lawler (Year 12), Sam Negri (Year 11), Neil Filewood (Year 12, reserve) and Levi McCahon (Year 11, reserve).

Girls: Ashlee Andrews (Year 12), Haylee Andrews (Year 11), Nicola Hampson (Year 12) Mishayla-Rae Kuper-Moren (Year 12), Phoebe Marten (Year 12, reserve), Gracie Dale (Year 11, reserve) and Emily Harding (Year 11, reserve).

As well as players, Town High has a number of staff involved in the Championships:

Jude Di Giacomo – convenor
Tim Duroux – coach of the boy’s team
Jess Strang – manager of the girl’s team
Ben Williams – assistant coach and manager of the boy’s team

The Queensland Secondary School Sport Basketball Championships will be held at the Townsville Basketball Centre, 12th – 15th May.
News from the Student Council

Welcome to 2016!

For this year, I am honoured to be the Student Council President.

As the President, I am very excited to be involved in helping organise the many events we have at Townsville State High School. I would like to thank everyone who supported the Student Council executives in our bid for these positions. We are very grateful.

On March 11, Week 7 of Term One, Town High has its biggest fundraising event of the year – The Shave for a Cure! Shave for a Cure is a fundraising event organized by the Leukemia Foundation, where money raised helps support Australians with blood cancer. At Town High we have a special parade to raise money. We have a proud tradition of fundraising for this cause and were the highest fundraising secondary school in North Queensland for 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013. Hopefully this year can be equally as outstanding.

Students from all grades can participate in this great cause. They have the option to colour or shave their hair. This year we are also doing something new, as some teachers and senior students have volunteered to wax their hairy legs, and other students can buy, and pull, a wax strip for $5. One of the people waxing their legs is our very own Principal: Mr. Slater!

Students are also encouraged to wear Red for Rhys on the day, and give a gold coin donation for this. Rhys Pengelly was a past student in the Senior Class of 2008 and lost his battle with Leukemia in December 2010.

You can help make a difference to a very valuable cause by sponsoring the fundraiser on our team page. Just visit http://www.worldsgreatestshave.com/, click on sponsor and search for Town High.

Students and staff come together in this whole school activity to raise important funds for the Leukemia Foundation, and we invite any parents or guardians to attend.

We hope everyone supports this great cause, and all of our future endeavours.

Thank you.

Lorrie Salomon
Student Council President

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.

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

(a) Navy blue tailored long pants
(b) The school jersey or navy blue zip-up fleecy lined or plain navy blue jumper without any logos
(c) 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.

Non-Compliance with School Dress Code

Under the school’s Responsible Behaviour Plan and the Education (General Provisions) Act 2000, permitted standards for non-compliance of the dress code include:

c) Defect of the student for a period specified in section 255(3) of the Education (General Provisions) Act 2000.
(b) Preventing the students from attending, or participating in, any activity for which the principal recommends the students’ attendance.
(c) Preventing the student from attending, or participating in, any activity that, in the reasonable opinion of the principal or the school’s principal, is part of the essential educational program of the school.

A parent/ guardian under the submission of (1) or (2) may only be imposed on a student only for breaches with the dress code.

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.

From the Guidance Officer

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

Headspace is the National Youth Mental Health Foundation providing easy anonymous mental health services to 12-25 year olds. This service is designed to enable young people and their family to get the help they need for problems affecting their well-being. This covers four core areas: mental health, physical health, work and study support and alcohol and other drug services.

We have the only school based clinic at Townsville State High School in Townsville and this service is available weekly on Monday. To access this service you have 3 options:

1. A school referral referred to Headspace through a discussion with Theresia Irvin, Guidance Officer, Andrea Mitchell, School Based Health Nurse, or the Deputy Principal – Hybrid Middle and Senior Years (Years 7-10) and Senior Years (Years 11-12), Nathan Henney (Years 11-12), and Tony Vetere (Years 7-10) and and a phone interview with a Doctor is also required to obtain a Mental Health Plan. This is required to set out any other health concerns and to access the task selected for the student.
2. Directly access any Doctor by requesting a Mental Health Plan and asking for a referral to Headspace – comprising appointments at school.
3. Directly contact Headspace to discuss and register an appointment. Contact details are:
   Headspace Townsville
   2-4 Sports Drive, Townsville Central, Townsville, Queensland 4810
   Ph: (07) 4770 7877  (07) 4770 7878
   Email: Townsville@headspace.org.au
   Website: www.headspace.org.au/townsville

If you have any queries, please contact Theresia or Andrea on 47707777 to discussion.

Theresia Irvin
Guidance Officer
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.


LOCAL NEWS

FREE TRAINING

BSB30415 Certificate III in Business Administration

Are you:
- over 15 years of age
- unemployed and looking for a job
- working part-time or casual and want to increase your existing hours or find another job
- NOT on Australian Government Assistance
- been on Australian Government Assistance for more than 6 months

If you fit the above criteria and are seriously committed to 8 weeks of classroom training and finding employment contact

Jobtrain
Phone: 4723 1666

*This training is partly funded and supported by the Queensland Government through its Skilling Queenslanders for Work Initiative.*
LOOKING FOR GIRLS TURNING 14 OR 15 TO PLAY SOCCER
NO PREVIOUS SOCCER EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

CONTACT
admin@nqfootball.com.au
OR 47 782 955

NDCO QLD MOBILE APPS
AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD

NDCO’s In Queensland have worked together to create the NDCO Qld Mobile Apps

These mobile apps are available for FREE DOWNLOAD from the iTunes and Google Play app stores.

The NDCO Qld apps contain important information for all people preparing to transition between school, training, higher education and employment. There’s information for parents and service providers assisting people to transition.

There’s additional information to assist people with disability, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and also people from Culturally & Linguistically diverse backgrounds.

Please distribute information about the NDCO Apps to students, clients, parents and service provider staff.

Once you’ve installed the NDCO Qld App on your phone or tablet, tap on the FUN STUFF icon on the home screen and enter the monthly draw for a chance to win a $100 gift voucher and you’ll also go into the draw in June for a brand new iPad Mini. The first monthly draw will be on Feb 29 so download and enter now to go into the draw.

Go to your App Store and search for NDCO Qld or click on the buttons below:

Install the NDCO App for iPhone and iPad
Install the NDCO Qld App on your Android device

NDCO Contacts
Qld Region: Bundaberg, Hervey Bay, Mackay, Rockhampton, Whitsunday.

QLD Area: Cariseld, Cairns, Cape York, Tablelands, Cloncurry, Longreach, Mount Isa and North West Queensland, including the Gulf.