Every day counts - students must attend school

FROM THE PRINCIPAL  8th February 2013

WELCOME
Welcome to the 2013 school year at Townsville State High School. For those of you who have been a part of Town High previously we look forward to your continued support. For parents who are new to the school, we welcome both you and your young adult and look forward to sharing the journey through secondary education.

Our focus for the Town High community is high expectations. We have established high expectations for all our students regarding attendance, effort, behavior and academic achievement. I would also encourage parents to re-establish high expectations of their child’s learning.

TOWN HIGH SUCCESS
At the end of each year, we review the student data to determine the successfulness of our programs and initiatives. I can say without hesitation that our program have achieved positive student outcomes. ie. 20.5% of our OP students achieved an OP score of 1-5, 64.3% of OP students achieving an OP 1-15, 12% of OP students achieving a ‘A’ on the QCE test, an increase of 23% of all senior students achieving an OP/QCE/Vet Certificate, and an increase of 13% of students achieving a QCE.

These outstanding results truly reflect the quality teaching that happens in every classroom in every lesson by every one of our teachers.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION FOR TOWN HIGH
Town High has several strategic priorities including Quality Teaching, Literacy and Numeracy, Closing the Gap and ICT’s. This year we will continue our focus on quality teaching where teachers will observer their peers teach and provide quality feedback on their performance. Research has shown that this is the most effective way to enhance the development of pedagogy in a learning environment.

Our second major focus for 2012 is on a whole school spelling program and a whole school reading program. Every teacher is developing a spelling list of key words specific to the student’s context. Each teacher will set three spelling words that students will encounter in that week’s lessons. English will be setting more than 3 words each week. This means that students should have at least 20 spelling words to learn each week.

Our Reading program requires teacher to read to, and read with students to develop an understanding of the text rather than just being able to read the words on the page. Parents are encouraged to promote reading in the home by providing students with 30 mins dedicated reading time each day. This can be the 30 before dinner, or 30 mins in bed each night. Doing this will dramatically improve the learning outcomes of your child.

Our third focus area will be of differentiation which will involve teachers working with students and planning their lessons to cater for the diverse learning needs of students in their classes. During our student free days, consultant Dr Jenny Nayler worked with the teaching staff of determining what differentiation is and modeled some strategies that could use.

Teachers have been setting goals with students in each of their classes. Students reflect on their past year of work and establish achievable yet challenging goals that they will work on through the semester. Students take responsibility for their goals by establishing what strategies they will do to achieve their goals. Teachers then work with individual students over the semester with individual student’s specific strategies to help them achieve over the best.

NEW TEACHING STAFF
We welcome new staff to Town High transferring into Town High:
Ms Rebekah O’Keeffe – Maths, Ms Crystal Greive – Humanities, Ms Amanda Simmons – Humanities, Miss Lauren Baumber – English, Miss Erin Matina – English, and Mr Troy Patti – Music.

BAD WEATHER / CYCLONE EMINENT
In the weeks leading up to school, we have been experiencing some difficult weather which in turn affects schools. As a public education institution, schools continue to deliver programs to students and do not close unless the safety of students and staff may be at risk. This decision is not made by myself, but by Richard English - Regional Director of Education, who considers many factors before making a final decision. If in the event that we experience adverse weather including a possible cyclone threat, please listen to 4TO FM just before 7am where a decision regarding school closures will be announced by Richard. In these situations, parents are also encouraged to make their own decisions regarding the safety of their children. Keep in mind that it may be safe for students to get to school. However, consideration is also needed for the student’s ability to get back home later that day.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS
Every day counts - Every student is required to attend school every day. We understand that at times students will fall ill, however, the expectations are that for students to be successful, they need to attend school every day.

Do your best – Students are responsible for their learning and therefore they need to perform to the best of their ability every lesson. There should be no reason why a student should not be able to achieve an ‘A’ for their Effort in each subject on their semester report card.

Achieve your goals – Students need to use the strategies that they have identified in their goal planning to achieve the results that they strive towards.

Assessment is not optional – All students are required to submit all draft assessment and final assessment items completed to the best of their ability. Non-submission of assessment is not acceptable if students are to be successful in their learning.

Scott Stewart
2013 NEWSLETTERS

In 2013 our newsletter will be emailed to all Parents, Guardians and Friends.

The email distribution list will only be used for the school newsletter.

We encourage all families to take up this option to help reduce our paper usage. If you do not have an e-mail address, students can collect a hard copy of the newsletter from the office.

Please complete the form below and return to the main office so we can update our system information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parent / Guardian: (please print)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E-mail: (please print)</td>
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<td>Student Name: Year level:</td>
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TOWNSVILLE STATE HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENT DRESS CODE

The P & C Association of Townsville State High School supports the ‘Student Dress Code’ outlined below:

1. Shirt (Junior Secondary): Polo style T-shirt in bottle green and navy blue with the school logo on the pocket.

2. Shorts: Navy blue shorts with the ‘TSHS’ initials on the leg.


4. Shoes/Socks: Clean shoes with enclosed uppers, preferably vinyl or leather. White socks.

5. Senior Uniform: A green and white striped shirt with school logo. Girls must also wear a school tie.

6. Winter Uniform: Navy blue tailored long pants. The school jersey or a navy blue zip-up fleecy lined jacket with school logo or a plain navy blue pullover/jacket. Girls may wear plain black/navy or sheer stockings as part of the winter uniform.

7. Headwear: A hat must be worn for outside activities, in line with the school’s Sun Safe Strategy. If students from overseas countries wear headwear for religious reasons, it is to be navy blue, bottle green or black.

8. Jewellery: The following is acceptable: a watch, one bracelet/bangle, one signet ring, one chain or necklace and pair of studs or sleepers in ears. Facial piercings are not permitted.

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

10. Tattoos: Visible tattoos are not permitted.

11. Undershirts: Undershirts are permitted but must not be visible.

School Representative Dress: Students representing the school on official excursions or activities are to wear full school uniform, unless notified otherwise.

Kaylene Mladenovic
Deputy Principal
March. Camp starts on Monday 25th March to Thursday 28th March. You will receive further information via the newsletter and should have received the consent forms on Friday, please complete these and return to G Block Staffroom as soon as possible. Year 8 also participate in a free immunisation program. Most students have received an information package with permission forms, however due to increased enrolments some students did not receive a package. If your child hasn’t received these forms, they are available from the Office. Our Year 9 Junior School Captains, Year 9 Reef Captains and Year 9 Junior Student Council President will soon be chosen. The Year 8 leaders will be chosen in Term 2 after camp.

I look forward to a great year where our students achieve success in many fields.

**POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT**

PBS stands for Positive Behaviour Support – a highly successful behaviour program used widely by schools in Australia and overseas. PBS has been in place at Townsville State High School since 2008.

The key idea of PBS is to teach, reinforce and reward appropriate behaviour. This is done in a series of short lessons that cover everything from how to enter a classroom, to how to avoid conflict with your peers. Specific lessons are delivered throughout the year.

One of the goals of PBS is that all students will have a clear understanding of what the behaviour expectations are at Townsville State High School 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. PBS has been successful at Town High with our data for 2012 showing a decrease in the number of inappropriate behaviour incidents.

Our first lessons this year were on the positive and negative consequences of behaviour and how Town High’s behaviour expectations are a reflection of what students will experience in the workplace. Lessons 3 and 4 explain the expectations for arriving to school and class on time, equipped and ready to work.

Parents can support the PBS program at Town High just by asking their child what they have learnt in PBS lessons. It is all about positive social skilling.

**RETURN OF TEXTBOOKS / PAYMENT OF 2013 TEXTBOOK AND RESOURCE**

It would be greatly appreciated if parents/guardians could check the house for Text (a label is attached to the front cover) and/or Library Books (usually identified by Spine Labels and Barcodes as well as the school name stamped both inside and on the edge of the book) and return them to the school as soon as possible.

Participation in the 2013 Student Resource Scheme requires payments as follows:

- Yr 8-9 $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 reports at the end of last year for further details. If you do not have a copy of the Participation Agreement Form you can collect a copy from the school office.
Either option to participate or not participate in the scheme needs to be indicated on the Agreement Form and returned to the school by 22nd February 2013. 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 8 and 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

MATHS DEPARTMENT

We are very much looking forward to an excellent year of Mathematics in 2013, and to any new students joining us for the first time, you’ve chosen a great school to come to, so congratulations on your choice.

The Maths department has undergone some personnel changes this year. We say a temporary farewell to Daniel Santarossa (who’ll be back with us in Semester 2) but a final farewell (we think) to James Ogilvie. Thanks go to both gentlemen for their tireless hard work over the past couple of years, and to James in particular, we wish them all the best.

We welcome two new teachers to Town High Maths – Rebekah O’Keeffe and Patrick Bruck. Both have a lot of experience teaching mathematics and we look forward to their new ideas and enthusiasm.

Junior Secondary School (Years 8 to 10):
There are several exciting initiatives in the department this year. There are three main things that I would like to address and inform you about. As part of the homework program, we have introduced Maths Mate across all Junior Secondary Maths classes. Every week, your student will bring home a Maths Mate sheet to complete. The idea is that these will (a) enrich and reinforce current knowledge of a wide variety of mathematics concepts and (b) identify any gaps in knowledge that we can quickly address. Please assist us by encouraging your student to complete the sheets to the best of their ability and signing it in the space provided when they are finished. The sheets are due on the first maths lesson of each week.

Very soon, each student in Junior Secondary will receive their own unique access code to an online mathematics learning environment called IXL (www.au.ixl.com). We encourage all students to access this site as often as possible, as a support to the teaching and learning. More information about this will be sent home with your child soon.

Finally, it is vital that all students come to Maths class prepared. Every student has a timetable glued into their diary and a term planner glued into their Maths book. I encourage you to read it and become familiar with them both. For Maths, the minimum expectation of equipment is a Maths book, pen or pencil, scientific calculator, ruler and laptop (year 10 only, once they are issued). Can you please assist us by helping ensure your child has all of these things when they come to school every day.

Senior Secondary School (Years 11 – 12):

Graphics Calculators are available for hire for Senior Mathematics students (particularly Maths B and C students) at a cost of $55 per year. If you wish to participate in this program, please ensure you get a hire form from your Mathematics teacher and pay the fee as soon as possible. If parents wish to purchase a calculator rather than hire one, the school uses Casio fx-9860 AU Plus-L calculators.

General Information:

Parent Contact
Letters will be given to every student in Mathematics in the first two weeks inviting parents who have access to an email address at home (or work where appropriate) to participate in this program, as well as general information about the course that your child is undertaking. If you did not receive a letter, please email me (gmllic44@eq.edu.au) or contact your child’s teacher (Ph 47218777) to get your copy (or check in your child’s maths book or school bag)! We encourage you to keep in regular contact with us – we will certainly be emailing you throughout the term with updates, information and work being covered.

Textbooks
It is our expectation that every student hire a text from the resource room and bring it to and from school for every Mathematics lesson. Books hired using this process will not be allowed to be kept in the classroom and at all times remain the responsibility of the hirer. Electronic versions of all texts are also available on request – please ask your student to see their teacher. Students with school laptops may choose to use this option and leave their printed text at home.

Homework
The question that I get asked the most is “is my child getting any homework as they never seem to?” The answer is always a resounding YES. The school is reinforcing the use of the diary and we encourage all parents to get involved. Diaries will be regularly checked by teachers and we ask that parents do the same. If you have any concerns at all in this area, contact your child’s teacher. We believe that regular, relevant, applicable and engaging homework tasks will enhance the learning experience and better assist in retention and understanding of the work. It also allows us to ascertain where issues are occurring and provide opportunities to address these straight away.

Year 8 Family Maths Night
On Wednesday 6th March, Town High will be hosting the first annual Family Maths Nights for Year 8 students and their parents. This is an opportunity for parents to come along, with their child and see what goes on in the classroom. There’ll be information presented, activities to do (with your child) and light refreshments. More information will be sent home soon, so please keep an eye out for it.

If you have any questions or would like further information about the department and its policies, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher or myself. We are only too keen to be of assistance.

Greg Millican
Head of Department – Mathematics

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

19 students from Matsumoto Agatagaoka High School in Japan are visiting our school for 11 days this term. The students are in Year 11, are very good at English, and this trip is a culminating activity as part of their English curriculum studies. We are seeking host families to take in the students while they are here. Please contact Mr. Ivory (mivor5@eq.edu.au) at the school for further information.
The Arts Department is looking forward to an exciting year ahead. We have Dance North coming into the school this term for a series of dance workshops culminating in a public performance. The workshops are free and any student may participate no matter what their level of dance ability is! Other news in The Arts is that we have a new music teacher, Mr Patti, who is very keen to get more students to participate in the Percussion and Instrumental programs. The Vocal and Guitar programs will continue to run. This year we also have the opportunity to design and create a sizable permanent artwork in the school grounds. There is an opportunity this term to participate in a competition to design and paint a mural for the Resource Centre (library). In Term Three there will be a chance for students to demonstrate their singing, dancing and acting abilities in ‘Town High’s Tribute To The Musicals’ and don’t forget Artsweek and ArtzExpo in Term Four. If you are interested in participating in any of the above activities please see the Arts Staff in P Block Staff Room. It is going to be an exciting busy year!!

Lisa Vincent
Head of Department - The Arts/Teaching & Learning

Troy Patti
Music Teacher

If you have been learning a Woodwind, Brass or Percussion instrument since you have been at school or if you are interested in learning a musical instrument we are currently recruiting for 2013. This is a fantastic opportunity and I encourage anyone interested to join. There are a limited number of instruments available to hire (FOR FREE) and the lessons are FREE. You need to contact MR Patti on 47 218 741 as soon as you can to make sure you don’t miss out.

Troy Patti
Music Teacher

School is now back in full swing. Hopefully it was a stress-free return to school for your teenager, you and your family. If not, here are some tips that might help them to be as healthy, organised and as ready to learn as possible.

1. Get into a routine as soon as possible.
Talk to your teen about the routine they will need to follow during the week and establish clear guidelines and boundaries. Eg. bedtime, amount of screen time, what time they need to be ready to leave for school, after school commitments and homework. This may alleviate arguments, especially if they have some input.

2. Avoid the morning rush.
Simple things can help a lot, like setting the alarm, organizing lunch and a uniform the night before and prepare for any after school activities.

3. Eat a healthy breakfast everyday.
Breakfast gives a kick start to the day and helps young people think and learn. Teens that eat breakfast are more likely to:
- Have improved concentration and short-term memory
- Be more focussed
- Maintain a healthy weight

4. Healthy lunch
A great rule of thumb is to keep the foods as close to their natural state as possible. The more processed a food becomes, the less nutritious it is.

5. Try to eat together as a family.
This is a great time to talk about the day- even those reluctant-to-talk teenagers, with some creative questioning techniques may find themselves discussing aspects of their day.

6. Protect the skin.
SLIP, SLOP, SLAP, SEEK and SLIDE. Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world and the deadliest one – Melanoma – kills about 800 people per year. Make sure your young person wears a hat.

7. Move it.
Obesity is a problem in Australia and experts say it is related to inactivity. Physical activity will improve young people’s fitness levels and protect them from a wide range of illnesses. Join a team or club and get active.

8. Look after the teeth
Bad dental habits during childhood and adolescence can lead to more than a toothache in adulthood. Oral hygiene is the best way to prevent tooth decay and gum disease. Floss and clean teeth after meals and have teeth checked at least once per year.

9. Drink water
Young people need to drink at least 8 glasses a day, especially if unwell or playing sport. Dehydration can occur quickly – particularly in North QLD. So keep that water up.

10. Set goals.
Help your teenager to identify what they want to achieve for the year and how they are going to do it. It could be getting to school on time every day, achieving good marks or participating in school sporting events and activities.

11. Sleep.
Teenagers need 9 to 10 hours sleep every night. This enables the brain to recover, repair and grow.

12. Teach resilience
It’s the ability for your teen to cope with the ups and downs of growing up. Young people need to know the following:

I CAN
- make a difference.
- talk to others about things that bother/upset me
- find ways to solve problems
- control myself when needed.

I AM
- a worthwhile person.
- loved and loveable
- happy to do nice things for other people and show I care.
- respectful of others and myself.
- willing to be responsible for what I do

I HAVE
- people around me who I trust and who love and support me.

They
- show me how to do things right
- want me to learn to do things on my own
- help me when I’m sick or in trouble
- will keep me safe.

Andrea Short
School Based Youth Health Nurse
STUDY AT ADFA IN 2014

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• The best student-to-teacher ratio in the country
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• Guaranteed career upon successful graduation

To find out more about ADFA attend the next information session:

6.00pm, Wednesday 13th February 2013, Defence Force Recruiting, 143 Walker Street, Townsville

To book your seat call 07 4726 0226 or email pross@dfr.com.au

Looking for an AFL club?

Then try Curra Swans Football Club

SENIORS and JUNIORS

Training nights: Tues and Thurs 5.30pm

Where: Muldoon Oval, Murray Sports Complex, Annandale

Contact club Secretary: Bob Hillier 0402 808350

www.curraswans.aflq.com.au

Townsville Hockey Association Family Fun Days and Sign-On

2 – 3 February, 2013
Fitness “ Fun “ Hockey
Come along and enjoy mini hockey games and fun hockey activities.
For more information visit:

Or email: office@townsvillehockey.com

CHEERLEADING CLASSES

Competition and Recreational

For details phone Fiona Brown at

TOWNSVILLE DANCE AND CHEERLEADING

On 4778 2564 or 0413 745 016

Lowes Castletown wishes to advise the school community that they have run out of stock in the navy TSHS short but another order will be delivered by the end of February. Any customers who have placed an order will be notified when they arrive.

Paula Hill
Schoolwear Coordinator North QLD
Hermit Park Gourmet Meats
Organic Lamb | Beef | Local Ham | Pork & Spanish Mackerel, Borgo Salami & Gourmet Sausages
Bulk Economy Packs For Families
Ph: 4771 4039
Shop 2 Hermit Park Shopping Centre
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Open 7 Days

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Equipment & Chemical Services
On-site Maintenance Holiday Care
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Pool Safety Inspector No. 100556
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Ph: 07 4774 7181

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4WD Movers in Mining
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Kowari Motors, Commercial Av, Bohle. P: 4774 7577

Mr John Hathaway
Member for Townsville
Proudly Supporting Townsville State High School and Our Community
P: 4772 4711
E: townsville@parliament.qld.gov.au
W: www.johnhathaway.com.au
Facebook: John Hathaway, MP - Member for Townsville

Welcome to James Cook University Australia

www.jcu.edu.au 1800 246 446

South Pacific Taekwon-do
(Registered Training Organisation)
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www.southpacifictaekwon-do.com.au

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Garbutt QLD 48414

Councillor Colleen Doyle
Division 9 (West End, Hermit Park, Hyde Park, Pimlico, Mystery, parts of Rosslea, Mandingoura, Railway Estate and the City)
I look forward to meeting you over the next four years. Please contact me with any Councillor related enquiries you may have.
Councillor Colleen Doyle 0418 273 817
Colleen.doyle@townsville.qld.gov.au

Your Child's Future Begins Here!
James Cook University runs 2
Science programs annually in the school holidays.
Your child will:
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"Outstanding, Memory of a Lifetime!"
Year 11/12 - Science in the Tropics, June
Year 9/10 - Science Experience, October

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