START TO THE SCHOOL YEAR

Town High has started the year very well. We have been riding the crest of a wave of success where more than 20% of OP eligible students achieved an OP score of 1-5. These are outstanding results to say the least. Some other results that we are proud of are that we had an increase of 13% of senior students being awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education, and an increase in school wide attendance to 86%.

All these successes can only be attributed to the successful partnerships between students, parents and staff. I congratulate all our Town High community on these significant successes.

DIFFERENTIATION – ONE OF OUR EXPLICIT IMPROVEMENT AGENDA FOCUS AREAS

Our Explicit Improvement Agenda this year focuses on four key areas which include: Differentiation; Reading, Spelling and Writing; Using Data; and Effective Classroom Observations and Feedback.

“Our vision is that a differentiated classroom will have a combination of teacher directed, teacher selected activities, and learner centred, learner selected activities; whole class instruction, small group instruction and individual instruction”. Teachers will be working towards achieving that vision over the next three to four years. While this is not a new concept to many teachers at Town High, we are making it an explicit expectation as we work with students to achieve their full potential. One of our first strategies has been to work with students on establishing specific goals to work towards this semester. I would encourage parents to discuss with their child what these goals are and what strategies the student will be doing to achieve their goals.

LEADERSHIP INDUCTION

We inducted our school leaders on a school-wide assembly a few weeks ago. Our student leaders play an important role in our school community. More often than not, it is the senior students who set the tone of the school. Their actions and reactions will role model to other students the acceptable behaviours at Town High. We hold very high expectations for our senior students and leaders across the school. Our Year 12 students will soon head off to senior leadership camp where not only will they participate in a range of activities, but immerse themselves into discussions around leadership and what their role will become in the wider community. We wish them well.

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 student’s 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.

Scott Stewart
Principal

DATE CLAIMER

12/03 P&C Meeting 6:30pm
All Welcome
13/03 Parent Teacher Evening - Library
15/03 Shave for a Cure
Canteen Red Day
Uniform Free Day
16 - 27/03 Matsumoto Agatagaoka School Visit
18 - 22/03 Yr 12 Camp - Tinaroo
25 - 28/03 Yr 8 Camp - Kinchant Dam
29/03 School Holidays Commence
15/04 Term 2 Commences

Wendy Hughes
Deputy Principal
LEADERSHIP INDUCTION CEREMONY

This ceremony was held in Week Four in the School Hall on a Full School Assembly with parents and friends invited to celebrate the induction of the 2013 school leaders. The School Captains for 2013 are Eve Miller and Williams Ellis and the Vice Captains are Anna Sinclair and Ryan Allan. (pictured above with Scott Stewart, Principal)

Junior Secondary Captains are:- Phoebe Marten and Blake Joppich.

The Student Council Executive for 2013 are:- Seth Siriya - President; Lorrie Salomon - Junior Secondary President; Shanelle Richards - Vice President and Samuel White - Treasurer.

Keeper Reef Captains - Amy Beyer, Gaje McCahon
Keeper Reef Vice Captains - Vallance Pettit, Patrick Schreiber
Keeper Reef Junior Captain - Lilee Cunningham.

We wish our school leaders a successful and rewarding year with the support of their peers and the school community.

Positive Behavior Support

Last week’s PBS lesson was on Punctuality. The lesson revolved around the importance of getting to school and class on time and having the gear you need ready to start learning.

Students explored what situations may prevent them from arriving at school and or at class on time and then considered what impact lateness will have on their education.

The class then determined strategies they could use to ensure that they are punctual on a regular basis, like a bit of forward planning, getting organised for the next morning in the night before, having all homework done and the right books for the day.

Simple things, like making sure they have got a drink and gone to the toilet during the break, not asking to leave the room when the class has started, will have an impact on their education.

Punctuality is a habit of successful people.
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.

Year 12 Senior Leadership Camp is Coming Up Quickly

The Townsville State High School Year 12 Leadership Camp is during the week of Monday 4th to Friday 8th April (Week 11 of Term One). Students and staff are very excited about camp and look forward to the camp towards the end of this term. All students participating in the camp have now had sufficient time to finalise their full payment of School Fees and Camp Fees to the Front Office for Year 12 Camp this term. All School Fees need to be paid before payment for the Year 12 Leadership Camp is received. Thank you for your support.

TOWNSVILLE SCHOOL FORMAL EXPO 2013

Sunday 17th March, 10 am to 1 pm

Greek Community Centre, Flinders St West.

Townsville’s Formal Experts all together to bring their knowledge and experience to you.

“Win your School Formal Look for FREE”

Gold Coin donation entry – all proceeds to “Red Frogs Townsville”

Fashion parade by Wedding Gowns by Melinda & Explosif Clothing & New Park Menswear (We are looking for models, so please contact us via our Facebook page – Townsville School Formal Expo 2013)

I would like to congratulate the students who applied to be 2013 Junior School Leaders. The competition was diverse but exceptional and I am pleased to announce the following successful students:

Junior School Captains: Blake Joppich and Phoebe Marten
Junior School Student Council President: Lorrie Salomon
Warrior Junior School Captains: Mishayla-Rae Kupfer-Moren and Lachlan Stewart
Keeper Junior School Captain: Lilee Cunningham
Faraday Junior School Captains: Nicholai Hammer and Tiarna Crowhurst
Brewer Junior School Captain: Renny Miller
Needle Junior School Captain: Zoe Ogilvie and Kyara Milton
I would also like to congratulate the students who participated in the 2013 School and Interschool Swimming carnival. Both days were a huge success.

**Year 8 Parents:** Planning for Year 8 School Camp is underway. Year 8 Parents please return the 2 permission notes IMMEDIATELY. Payments are due by March 15th, so please ensure these are made. Please phone or email me if you have any questions (47218777 or jbosw12@eq.edu.au).

**Year 8 & Year 9 Parents:** Each term we will be having a Junior Secondary Celebration Parade to acknowledge students who have excelled in their Academics, Engagement, Attendance, Preparedness and Industry. Teachers are currently nominating students for these awards. All nominated students will be announced, but two students will be chosen for each award for each year level (two year 8 and 2 year 9 students for the Academic Award). If your child is chosen for one of these awards, they will be treated to a reward in Term 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awards</th>
<th>Award Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Achievement</td>
<td>Nominees for this award should have demonstrated exceptional academic achievement. This award may go to a student who has achieved an exceptional result in their assessment results, which may be theoretical or practical.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engagement Award</td>
<td>Nominees for this award should have demonstrated an improved level of engagement in your subject area. This may be academic, industry or behavioural. This award may go to a student who demonstrates a high level of engagement in your subject or alternatively a student who has shown a noticeable improvement in their engagement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance Award</td>
<td>Nominees for this award know that every day counts and have the highest attendance score. If absences have occurred, they should be explained.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparedness Award</td>
<td>Nominees for this award should have demonstrated a high level of preparedness for class. This would include having the correct resources, uniform and class tasks such as homework completed prior to arrival at your lesson.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry Award</td>
<td>Nominees for this award should demonstrate a consistent level of industry and effort in your subject area.</td>
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**Important Dates to remember:**
Shave for a cure – March 15th (free dress and red tuckshop food day. Students to bring gold coin donation)
Parent Teacher Night – March 13th (Please book your appointment online)
Junior School Award Parade – March 22nd
Year 8 School Camp – Monday 25th to 28th March

Yours in Education

Jordana Murphy
HOD Junior Secondary School

Science in 2013 at Town High has had a great start. There are many opportunities coming up for students to get involved in Science activities. These include:

**June School Holiday Program Science in the Tropics**
Is a six day camp for any students in Year 11 or 12 who have an interest in the natural and physical sciences and would like to gain more information about the diverse range of study options and careers available in Science. Stay tuned for more information!

**October School Holiday Program - Science Experience**
The Science Experience is a fun three days of science activities for Year 9 students in 2013. The program is designed to provide students who have an interest in Science with an opportunity to engage in a wide range of fascinating Science activities under the guidance of scientists who love their work. Stay tuned for more information!

**International Science Competition**
Be a part of something BIG! If you love Science and know a bit or a lot about it, have a go at the International Science Competition! It is great recognition for all those who participate. More information about the competition will come in Term Two. Stay tuned for more information!

As the time is approaching where most students will be completing assessment in their Science subjects, it is essential students work hard to complete assessment to the deadlines their teachers specify. If students require extra help with their assessment, our Town High teachers are supportive to provide this assistance and don’t forget our tutorials on Wednesdays 3:15pm – 4:15pm in the library.

See Ms Chapman for more details on these Science activities.

**Payment of 2013 Textbook and Resource Hire Fees**

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 **ASAP** as the due date of 22nd February 2013 has passed. 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, Yr 10, Yr 12 camps, afternoon sports, NQ Sports, Vocal and Guitar Lessons, use of the School buses, Yr 12 Formal, Senior Jerseys, School Magazine, posting out of school reports.

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

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

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**REEF SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

The 2013 Reef Swimming Carnival turned out to be a great day and fun was had by all. CONGRATULATIONS to Keeper Reef who finished the day in first place.

Congratulations also to Townsville State High Schools **AGE CHAMPIONS**:

- **13yrs Girls**: Kodi Abraham
- **13yrs Boys**: Samuel Negri
- **14yrs Girls**: Rosie Robinson
- **14yrs Boys**: Blake Joppich
- **15yrs Girls**: Ashleigh Jepson
- **15yrs Boys**: Will Smith
- **16yrs Girls**: Eden Vinson
- **16yrs Boys**: Ogden Ashley
- **Open Girls**: Yasemin Alcock
- **Open Boys**: Ryan Allan & Patrick Schreiber

Well done once again to those students and everyone who participated on the day. It was great to see such a fantastic display of sportsmanship and teamwork by our Town High students. A big THANK YOU to all staff and helpers on the day – without you the carnival would not have taken place.

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**Inter-School Swimming Carnival**

On Tuesday 5th March the Inter-School Swimming Carnival was held at Long Tan pool.

The students were very well behaved, supportive and enthusiastic and swam their hearts out to place Town High 4th overall in both girls and boys. Town High won the 13 years Age Champions, which is a huge effort by the small numbers that competed. We also scored 2nd place age champions in 15 years girls, 13 years boys, 14 years boys and Open boys, and gained 3rd place in 16 years boys. A great effort by the Town High Interschool Swimming Team.

Congratulations to all students who participated in the Inter-School Swimming Carnival, your efforts and sportsmanship were outstanding.

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**Narelle Searston**  
Business Services Manager

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**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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<tr>
<td>Student Name: Year level:</td>
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English Department

It is not often that a private CEO will open the doors and invite you behind the scenes of their company but this is exactly what happened to Townsville State High School student Aiden Baker.

When given the task to write a biography for a school assignment on an Australian role model, Aiden had trouble finding the information he needed on Euclideon CEO, Bruce Dell. Not one to give up easily, Aiden had no issues with emailing Euclideon asking three simple questions about Dell. He was not prepared for the response.

His email was received by a staff member who had only been at the company for just 20 days who asked the powers – that be for to arrange a tour and meet and greet with Dell.

Aiden flew to Brisbane and not only got to meet Dell but he was taken on an exclusive, behind-the-scenes tour of Euclideon. For readers not in the know Euclideon are a leading advanced technology company started by Dell in 2009, who created an ultra-efficient search algorithm – similar to the way that Google can instantly search the vast amounts of data on the internet. Bruce was able to fundamentally change the way that 3D data was handled by computers, liberating the technology from the confines of high-end hardware requirements.

In late 2009, Euclideon began its life as a gaming company, and shot to fame when it released its now famous ‘Unlimited Detail’ demonstration video onto YouTube. The technology set the graphics world on fire, with Minecraft saying it was a scam as the technology was too unbelievable. Not bad for a small Brisbane company.

Aiden became interested in Dell’s work in 2010 and when the opportunity to write about an Australian role model was given to him for his English assignment he knew exactly who he wanted to write about. Dell is usually private and there is limited information about him online. While most students would have given up and picked someone with ample information Aiden figured it would not hurt to ask a few questions via email. Since no one has been allowed into the company, behind-the-scenes Aiden was shocked by his reaction to the way that Google can instantly search the vast amounts of data on the internet. Bruce was able to fundamentally change the way that 3D data was handled by computers, liberating the technology from the confines of high-end hardware requirements.

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When considering whether or not to allow your child to consume energy drinks, it is useful to think about the following.

• Would you be comfortable with your child drinking one or more cups of strong coffee? Some energy drinks contain about the same amount of caffeine as a strong cup of coffee, however, some contain much more (ranging from 80mg up to about 200mg).

• Are you concerned about your child’s sugar intake? Some energy drinks contain 5 teaspoons or more of sugar per 250ml can. This also can have a detrimental effect on oral health and obesity.

• Will the drink enhance your child’s well-being – there is very little (if any) evidence of nutritional value in most energy drinks. Nutrients are best obtained through fresh fruit, vegetables, grains and meat.

Energy drinks are addictive and their consumption is habit forming - many young people are increasingly dependant on energy drinks to cope with a hectic lifestyle.

It is not acceptable to bring energy drinks to school.

ENERGY DRINKS

In recent years, an increase in consumption of energy drinks containing caffeine has led to concern about the possible effects of caffeine on children and young people.

Of great concern are teenagers who purchase energy drinks on their way to school, substituting these drinks instead of breakfast. This affects class behaviour and concentration. Other effects include headaches, diarrhoea, irritability, anxiety, sleep disorders, blood pressure changes and sometime heart arrhythmias.

Caffeine can have an effect on the growing brain and it may cause a decline in the body’s immune system. Further research is needed as not enough is currently known about energy drinks and their effects on health, especially young people.

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‘TOWN HIGH’S TRIBUTE TO THE MUSICALS!’

After the success of Town High’s 2012 musical, Peter Pan, our next production is already up and running. This year we are putting together ‘Town High’s Tribute to the Musicals’; a snippet of acting, singing and dancing from Broadway Musicals Grease, Moulin Rouge, Aladdin, The Lion King and Mamma Mia! After a massive response from our students to be a part of this exciting event, we will be holding auditions for major singing roles and chorus members on Wednesday the 13th of March at first break and on Thursday the 14th of March at second break in J Block Theatre. It is not too late to sign up! Come and pick up a script from P Block Staffroom!

Erin Matinca
English Teacher