3 February 2015

Date Claimers

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Envelopes were handed out last week and are to be returned to the photographer by your child/children on Wednesday 4 February as they line up for their photos to be taken. We ask parents to read all of the relevant information supplied and to also remember these simple rules:

- School group order envelopes are available at the school office on request.
- School ID cards are provided as part of your Student Resource Scheme at a later date.
- The school office does not carry change for the orders.
- Please don’t hesitate to contact Advanced Life Photography on 4725 0899 if you have any queries.

INDUCTION CEREMONY

The Induction Ceremony will take place at 9am on Monday 9 February in the Multi-Purpose Hall. All parents, guardians and community members are welcome to attend the presentation.

P&C AGM MEETING

Invitation

The Proserpine State High School Parents and Citizens Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday 18 February at 7pm in the school administration office common room. The general meeting will follow at 7:30pm. P&C meetings are normally held on the third Wednesday of each month, except for school holidays or otherwise notified. The main aim of the P&C is to support students and their teachers to have the best learning experience whilst at Proserpine State High School.

Parents/Guardians and interested community members are invited to attend.

2015 “IN THE SWIM” CARNIVAL

Held at the Proserpine Pool
MONDAY, 23 FEBRUARY

ALL students are to go straight to the pool.
Buses will drop off and pick up students at the pool.
Helpers to timekeep, judge, etc. are needed.
If you are able to help, please contact the school on 4945 0111.
Don’t forget to “Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek & Wrap”.
Oh, and don’t forget the fun bit!

Principal Perspective

WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing break, ready for the challenges ahead in 2015. The year already presents itself as another year full of positive learning experiences and exciting educational activities. To our new families and new staff who are joining our school community, a special welcome. We trust that your time at Proserpine State High School will be a rewarding experience. I would like to let parents know that I operate on an open door policy and welcome both parents and students to discuss any concerns or ideas that you may have. Opportunities to discuss school issues, concerns and positive student outcomes can be done by a number of communication means, including making an appointment through the office, via a phone call or email the.principal@proserpineshs.com.au.

I encourage parents to introduce themselves to their child teacher this term and to familiarise the teacher with any specific needs they may have and what you as a parent can do to increase learning outcomes. It is proven that open communication between parents and teachers assists in improving student learning.

STAFFING NEWS

Congratulations to the following staff members who have been appointed as permanent Heads of Department in their respective areas for the commencement of the school year.

Corinne Raiteri - Head of Department – English
Rosin Connolly - Head of Special Education Services
Also congratulations to the following staff who will be in leadership positions throughout 2015:

Marijke Kuyper - Master Teacher (Teaching and Learning)
Trisha McHugh - Head of Department – Junior Secondary

Our Year Level Co-Ordinators this year are:
Year 7 - Mr Jensen
Year 8 - Ms Raylene Rasmussen
Year 9 - Mrs Jane Moran
Year 10 - Mr Ian Bell
Year 11 - Mr Jolley / Mr Smith (Leadership)
Year 12 - Ms Erin Hinschen

OUTSTANDING RESULTS GRADUATES 2014

There has been a great deal of emphasis on our senior program over the past two years with increased rigor and expectations of success for our students. Comprehensive tracking and communication of academic progress has allowed students to gain greater success within individual courses of study. The introduction of “The HUB of Independent Learning” has allowed students greater flexibility to study courses in line with their career direction and interest, whilst receiving greater support at a school level. The preparation of students for the QCS test continues to deliver students quality results as individuals and as a cohort – all accompanied by quality teaching and learning in our senior subjects by passionate teachers.

Our 2014 results are the highest achieved since the introduction of the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) in 2009. Congratulations to the teachers and the students on the following achievements.

- Proserpine State High School QCS cohort results higher than the State average
- 3 OP 1, 4 OP 2 and 4 OP 3 students
- 85% of students received an OP 1-15
- 98% of students received a QCE or School Based Traineeships and Apprenticeships (SAT) or Vocational Educational Training (VET) Qualification.

SOME EXPECTATIONS OUTLINED TO STUDENTS ON DAY 1

Respect

Since arriving at this school I have continued to talk to students about the need for every member of our school community to demonstrate the value of RESPECT.

- Respect towards others – students and adults
- Respect towards your learning environment
- Respect towards yourself as a learner and the rights of others to learn.

On the first parade of 2015 I spoke to students regarding the need to respect their own learning and the learning of others. A “close enough is good enough” attitude will not produce their best or allow them to reach their fullest potential. Instead it is important to set personal goals, strive for our best, challenge ourselves and apply a positive approach to everything we do.

Over the student free days teachers continued to work extensively on professional development activities that focused on the critical functions of teaching and engaging students in high impact lessons. I look forward to witnessing the positive student outcomes which will be produced from this approach.

Blatant Refusal Policy

In line with the message to students regarding the need to demonstrate respect for their learning and the learning of others I reinforced the Blatant Refusal Policy we introduced in 2014. Students who blatantly refuse to follow the reasonable directions of teachers and staff members in the classroom and behaviour that interrupts teachers from teaching and stops others from learning will receive immediate consequences. We will still enforce our Responsible Behaviour Management Plan however there will be a zero tolerance for a student’s inability to follow simple classroom expectations and as such will be escalated to a Category Three (suspension) much faster than before. I strongly suggest parents discuss this priority with their children to avoid any incidents and the inconvenience of having to come and collect their child throughout the day.

Uniforms

Can I start by acknowledging how impressive our Year 7 and Year 8 students looked in their uniforms on the first day and thank parents for the effort they have made over the holidays to get their children ready for the 2015 school year. I believe that wearing a uniform sets a strong foundation for success and builds habits that promote future employment opportunities.

On assembly I outlined to students the expectation of uniforms and their requirements. A detailed outline of the school uniform policy is in the student diary, as every student received their diary last week I encourage parents to read the policy and become familiar with the expectations.

I have informed both students and parents throughout the 2014 year regarding the end of our transition to the new uniform and the increased expectation to ensure that all students are appropriately dressed for school.

In short, I spoke to the students regarding the following:

- Students must wear the school uniform as per the uniform policy.
  - Girls shorts not to have a split on the side
  - Girls not to be rolling shorts or skirts.
- There is an expectation that students wear their formal uniform on Monday for whole school assembly.
- Combinations of formal and day uniform must not be mixed. For example, the formal shirt must not be worn with sport shorts or the equivalent.
- Sports shirts can only be worn during HPE lessons, sports carnivals and care carnivals.
- Jewellery, hair and make-up, piercings as per the diary.
- Shoes as per diary. A good start is NO high tops, slip-ons, fluoro or full coloured shoes.
A huge thank you goes to Mrs Lynn Larkin and her amazing group of volunteers who have worked tirelessly over the past weeks and last year to have uniforms fully available to our students.

Hats at School
As of 2015 all students will be required to wear a hat if playing on the oval at lunch, in physical education lessons or other outside subjects/activities. Students have responded positively to this request and I congratulate them for their efforts. Broad brimmed school hats have been ordered and on arrival will be distributed to every student in the school. Parents who have prepaid for a hat will receive a refund or credit to their account, whichever they prefer.

Student Attendance is Compulsory
I was very clear with students regarding the importance of regular attendance. Research shows that students who attend regularly are more likely to be successful and safe at school. Our new target for 2015 is 95% attendance.

- 95% attendance equates to:
  - 2.5 days per term
  - 5 days per semester
  - 10 days a year

This attendance target allow students the greatest chance of success at school and preparedness for the workforce. We also know that employers are looking for students who have good attendance records on their report cards when making the final decision to employ or not.

I urge parents to monitor their child’s attendance around this target and place school as a priority over functions, holidays and other events which often see students away from school for extended times. Our current attendance rates (2014) indicate that 26% of students attended school less than 85% of the time. This is a major concern which will be addressed this year.

There will be incentives for those students who meet the target of 95% or greater. Year coordinators will be tracking student attendance closely throughout the year and will be in contact with students and parents.

The school expects parents/caregivers to contact the school in advance if they know their child is to be absent. Our student absentee line is always listed on the top right corner of page 1 (Student Absentees: 4945 0160). Our attendance procedures will continue to inform parents/caregivers via an automated short mobile phone message (SMS) each time their child is away from school. Parents can then reply by pressing the reply option on their mobile phone when they receive a message from the school and add their son or daughter’s name, year, date of absence and the reason they were absent or late.

Mr Don McDermid
Principal

Sports Section
SCHOOL SPORTS 2015
The start of every year is always a busy time for school sports. It is important that students get themselves organised early. They must listen to morning notices and attend all meetings and trainings for their sport. Meetings will be held for sign up and distribution of forms and information as per these notices. If students miss the initial meeting then they have 2 days to see Mr Cox or Mr Wilson in SLC staffroom to sign up. Training and trials for school teams will be held and students must attend these or notify their coach. If they don’t they won’t be considered for selection. Any forms and money required for their sport must be returned to the office by the due date on the form (usually THREE school days prior to the trial taking place) as numbers for buses, etc must be finalised based on these returns. A final SMS reminder will be sent out to parents on the school SMS list for students who have signed up, the day before they are due. However if students still forget they MUST notify Mr Wilson or Mr Cox on the due date. Failure to meet these requirements will result in the student missing out on the trials or school team. Any questions in regards to Whitsunday or NQ sports trials please call either Mr Wilson or Mr Cox on 4945 0145.

See the 2015 District Sports Calendar which shows dates of Whitsunday, Northern and State trials. At times these dates may change slightly due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances. This can be viewed in the side panel to the left of the newsletter under District Calendar.

Proserpine State High will be participating in a Friday afternoon sport program with other schools in the Whitsunday district in the following sports. All sports will be U/13s U/15s and Senior unless specified.

Friday Sports Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Sports</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rugby League</td>
<td>20 February</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Netball</td>
<td>27 February</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6 March</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>13 March</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Touch Football</td>
<td>12 March</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>20 March</td>
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<td>27 March</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>24 April</td>
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<td>1 May</td>
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<td>15 May</td>
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<td>22 May</td>
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<td>AFL (U15s)</td>
<td>29 May</td>
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<td>5 June</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12 June</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Junior Secondary sports</td>
<td>Whitsunday district schools Tuesday 2 June (all day)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>exchange</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Yrs7-9)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Mr Don McDermid
Principal
Mr Sam Wilson
Sports Master

Introducing New Teachers

My name is Leah Francis and I will be teaching Year 7 English, history and geography this year. I grew up in the area and have taught at both Cannonvale and Proserpine State Schools since 2004. Previously I taught in Cairns and Mission Beach for a number of years. I look forward to being part of an exciting year for Junior Secondary.

Hello, my name is Melissa Harper and I am the new Junior English and SOSE/Humanities teacher. I have moved up to Proserpine from Mackay after graduating from James Cook University. I have had a lovely start to the year and look forward to getting to know the school and community better.

Hello, my name is Rob Jensen and I have lived in the Whitsunday area for the better part of 20 years so I am almost a local. The majority of my teaching career has been spent teaching at Proserpine State School. With Year 7 moving to the high school this year, I have taken the opportunity to also move. In 2015, I will be teaching mathematics and science. I am looking forward to the challenges and rewards of working in a new setting.

Hello everyone!

My name is Narelle Latter and I have just transferred from Cannonvale State School where I have spent the previous six years teaching a variety of grades in the primary school setting. I have also taught in Longreach, Brisbane (Norris Road State School and Albany Creek State School) and Bowen (Queen’s Beach State School), as a primary school teacher. I am excited to be a foundation teacher for the first year of Year 7 into the high school setting and will be teaching mathematics and science.

My name is Brian Preston. I have moved to Proserpine from Mackay, but used to live here during my primary school years. I am a passionate teacher of science and mathematics as well as an avid karate and basketball player.

Hi Everyone!

My name is Liam Mole and I’m a new SOSE/Humanities and English teacher. I grew up in England but I have been living in Brisbane for the last two years. My interests outside of school include soccer, hiking and kayaking. I am thoroughly enjoying my time so far at Proserpine State High School and have settled in well. Thank you to all staff and students for making me feel so welcome.

eLearning Update

WELCOME TO 2015 FROM THE eLEARNING TEAM

Our Resource Centre has had a very busy start to the year reissuing laptops to Year 9 to 12 students as soon as practical after payment is received by the school office. The process for distributing a device to a new student to the school takes a little longer and these students should receive the laptop as soon as possible. A big thank you is due to these dedicated staff members, as this is only one of the many class resources being issued to students at the moment.

Laptops are provided primarily for educational purposes as they are a learning tool. While some personal use is acceptable, the main guideline for use is under teacher’s instruction or parent/guardians’ permission ensuring compliance with the conditions of the Computer Network Agreement and Student Use Agreement. Please take some time to decide how you wish to manage the use of this device in your home and discuss these expectations with your son/daughter.

Students need to get into the habit of conducting regular backups (copying) of their hard drive. This can by done making a copy to an external hard disk drive, USB memory stick or copying school files back to the student’s home drive on the server. The loss of data including classwork, assignments and personal files can be very stressful. A weekly backup is highly recommended or more regularly at vital stages of assignment writing. Similarly, a good way to start the school year is to make a copy of last year’s data and clear out the D: hard drive. Subject folders should be established reflecting the student’s timetable.

All students need to pay particular attention to the care and treatment of their school bag as well as others’ belongings.
Every student must assume each bag contains a laptop and must act responsibly at all times. If the laptop is damaged, accidentally or wilfully, a cost can be incurred. Laptops/school bags should never be left unattended. When students attend practical lessons including health & physical education and manual arts, the laptop can be kept safe in a locker. Our Year 8s will have had a locker allocated as of last Friday and students in Years 9 to 12 can arrange for a locker space by approaching the resource centre staff. This is a free service. We are currently in the process of organising lockers for Year 7s, final arrangements will be forwarded to students and parents within the next few weeks.

Week 3 will involve tablet induction workshops for our Year 8 students. Later in the week students will be involved in practical, hands on session where students are also scheduled to receive their tablet. Further skills training will occur in Week 5. For the Year 7 students, the induction workshop will be held in Week 4 with further skills training after the device has been issued. Workshops will cover a wide range of topics to help support them with their device. New students to the school can also join one of these sessions. This can be arranged with the resource centre staff. Workshop topics include:

- Care of self and body
- Use of the laptop at school
- Responsibility and security
- Data backup/file copying
- Identification and personalisation
- Accessing technical support
- Reporting faults
- Care and cleaning
- Use of the laptop at home
- Internet usage
- Software and downloads
- Complying with copyright
- Hard drive – a game and movie free zone!
- Auditing
- Signed agreements

A separate email will have been sent to Year 7 and 8 parents regarding the selected tablet device for these students.

For parent or student enquiries, the following people can be contacted:

General enquiries: Leisa Telford
Finance enquiries: Megan Drennan
Technical assistance: Technical Support Staff based in the Resource Centre before school and at lunchtimes
Overall program enquiries: Deb Brown

TIP OF THE WEEK

Keep a plastic shopping bag in the school backpack. This can be used to cover and protect the laptop from water if caught in seasonal weather!

Mrs Deb Brown
Head of Department – Business & Technology

Junior Secondary News

Welcome to the new and returning families to Proserpine State High School, especially those joining us in the Junior Secondary year levels. The majority of students have settled quickly into their year level due to the 2014 Transition Program. The Junior Secondary room located in N08 is open during lunch on Monday, Wednesday and Friday for students in Years 7 to 9 who want a cool place to hang out by themselves or with friends or to make new friends.

It is hard to believe that school commenced last Tuesday. Students were well presented in their school uniform setting a high standard for the remainder of 2015. Their positive manners have been demonstrated when asking staff or students for assistance and when they need to get an item from their bag. These small actions reflect the key message of Junior Secondary as being “Happy, Engaged, and Successful”.

Organisation is a key to success and at Proserpine State High School we provide strategies to improve student organisation. The school diary is extremely helpful in structuring a student’s record of homework and the coloured folders provide a quick location for specific subject books. For example in the red folder your son/daughter should have their mathematics notebook and any other documents related to the study of mathematics. When your child packs their bag the night before school they only need to look at their timetable for the correct day and place the relevant coloured folders, pencil case, diary, lunch and any additional requirements in their bag. In a few weeks they will include their eLearning device and this will increase their need to be organised.

Students have commenced the year on a positive, especially by upholding the school uniform policy. A hard copy of the policy was provided for Year 7 and 8 students and parents throughout the Transition Program and can be referred to in your son/daughter’s Junior School diary. Some of our continuing students have been asked to address parts of their uniform including jewellery, shorts and shoes. In 2015 students require a hat to participate in any outdoor activity such as lunch time on the oval, health and physical education classes and working at the farm, all part of the school’s Sun Protection Policy.

Alongside the scheduled curriculum, there are many other activities on the calendar for Term 1 including Year 7 and Year 9 Online Literacy and Numeracy exams (Weeks 2 and 3) followed by Personal Learning Programs, School Photos (Week 2), Parent Information Evening (Week 6), Year 7 Camp (Week 7), workshops for the school musical “Oliver”, sport sign-ons, etc. Once again the diary can assist your child in keeping track of the events of interest to them and parents should monitor their child’s diary as a regular practice.
If you have any questions or concerns please contact me via the school contact details.

Mrs Trisha McHugh  
Acting Head of Department – Junior Secondary

An Update from the Coordinators

YEAR 7 COORDINATOR

Welcome to 2015. This year represents a significant change in education as Year 7 becomes a part of the high school setting. This week, 160 Year 7 students commenced Junior Secondary at Proserpine State High School. Each of these students is to be congratulated on how quickly they have settled in at high school. Since the commencement of school many staff have commented positively on the conduct of the Year 7 students. A great deal of planning and preparation has gone into ensuring that the Year 7 students at Proserpine State High School are being offered a relevant, rigorous and engaging curriculum in a safe and welcoming environment. It is up to each student to make the most of the opportunities being offered at the school to make sure that they are successful learners.

Helpful Information

Each student has been issued with a weekly timetable for Term 1. It may be a good idea to have an extra copy of the timetable at home. If your child happens to lose their timetable a copy can be obtained from the school office at a cost of 50 cents. If they are a perpetual loser the student will end up with a T1 detention.

Each student has been issued with a school based diary. This diary contains essential information regarding school procedures and policies. It will become a vital organisational tool as the year progresses and it is an expectation that their diary be brought to school each day.

Each student has been given several coloured folders, one for each subject area. These folders should be used to keep any notes, handouts from the relevant subject area in one location.

If you have any concerns regarding Year 7, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Mr Rob Jensen  
Year 7 Coordinator

YEAR 12 COORDINATOR

Year 12 Events this Week

Pathways to Success Day

This week, Year 12 students will be participating in the annual Pathways to Success Program on Tuesday. This is a full day program designed to bring together the senior cohort, developing a sense of unity within the group to encourage them to work together over the next ten months to make their senior year enjoyable and successful. It allows the students an opportunity to reflect upon Year 11, set goals for their final year and put strategies in place to achieve these goals. There will be a strong focus on expectations of senior students and keeping on track to achieve the Queensland Certificate of Education. Students will be required to bring their laptops, writing materials, sports uniform (or a change of clothes) and their morning tea. Lunch will be provided.

Set Plan Review Interviews with Parents

This program feeds into the Set Plan Review Interviews which will take place on Wednesday 4 February from 12 noon to 6pm. Parents and students have been notified to book a 30 minute interview through the school’s Online Booking System. This interview opens the communication pathways between students, their parents and the school regarding student goals. It allows everyone involved to work together in helping our seniors achieve. Year 12s will finish school at midday on Wednesday. They are more than welcome to remain on the school grounds to study or leave the premises, but are to attend an interview as booked.

Ms Erin Hinschen  
Year 12 Coordinator

Health Matters

Hi Everyone!

I’m Karen Dachs, the Proserpine State High School School Based Youth Health Nurse (SBYHN). I can be found in B4 on Monday, Tuesday and alternating Wednesdays. Please feel free to call me on 4945 0112 if you have any queries.

An outline of what I do

The SBYHN works with students and school community on issues that may affect the health and wellbeing of young people and the school community as a whole. This includes helping with curriculum, teaching and learning activities, providing health information and referral, supporting the development of the environment and school culture that supports health and wellbeing, and working with the community and other services.

The SBYHN can provide health and wellbeing information about:

• healthy eating and physical activity  
• feeling unhappy or stressed  
• relationships  
• healthy skin  
• personal and family problems  
• growth and development  
• sexual health  
• smoking, alcohol and other drugs.

Confidentiality

Young people have a right to confidentiality when accessing health services. As a health service provider the SBYHN respects this but there are some things the nurse must refer or act upon.

In most cases, it is best for young people to talk to their parents about health and wellbeing issues. I can support young people to do this.
Getting the best help for health

At times other services can provide more appropriate or further help or support for young people. The SBYHN will discuss the options for working with other services or linking young people with the right services.

The SBYHN does not provide

- treatment such as medications, injections, first aid
- physical examinations
- ongoing counselling for psychological problems.

Student appointments can be made to see me before or after school, or during breaks.

IMMUNISATION DATES 2015

The following are the dates for the 2015 school immunisations for Years 8 and 10 students. Consent/Information forms will be sent home with your child in the first week of February. Please read the information and discuss with your child.

NOTE: The Human Papillomavirus Vaccination HPV is now being offered to BOYS (previously this was only available to the girls through the School Immunisation Program). The consent forms cover the dates listed below for ALL immunisations for the year. Please return signed consent forms as soon as possible to the front office no later than 20 February. (There will be spare consent forms at the front office if needed!!!)

PLEASE NOTE: No immunisations will be given on the day if the consent forms have not been signed.

Tuesday 3 February

- Year 8 girls and boys – DTPa (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis [whooping cough]). Note the DTPa is being offered to Year 8 this year instead of Year 10.
- Year 8 girls and boys – Human Papillomavirus Vaccination HPV (1 of 3)

Wednesday 4 February

Year 10 girls and boys – DTPa (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis [whooping cough]) Vaccination

Catch up vaccinations for the above will be available at the Proserpine Hospital Friday 6 February between the hours of 7:30am and 2:30pm.

Tuesday 5 May

- Year 8 girls and boys – Varicella (Chicken Pox)
- Year 8 girls and boys – Human Papillomavirus Vaccination HPV (2 of 3)
- Catch up dTpa (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis [whooping cough])

Date to be advised

Year 8 girls and boys – Human Papillomavirus Vaccination HPV (3 of 3)

Please Note: Since 1 May 2000, Hepatitis B has been included in the National Immunisation Program for all infants. It is offered as a birth dose and also included as part of a combination vaccine given at 2, 4 and 6 months of age. This means that if your child was born on or after 1 May 2000, they may have already received Hepatitis B vaccination and will not require Hepatitis B in the school program. Please contact your doctor or the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register on 1800 653 809 if you need to check your child’s records.

If your child is not here on these days and misses out on their vaccinations then you need to contact the hospital or make arrangements with your local doctor/GP to have these done.

For further information please contact me.

Mrs Karen Dachs,
School Based Youth Health Nurse
Monday, Tuesday and alternating Wednesday on 4945 0112 from 8am to 4pm

Student Resource Scheme 2015

Fees are due for payment by Friday, 13 February 2015.

The Student Resource Scheme package was issued to students in November 2014. If you did not receive the package, please collect from the school office immediately.

Please remember to return the signed Student Resource Scheme Participation Agreement Form (page 5 of the package) when making the initial payment. The school diary, textbooks and resources will only be issued to students who are financial members of the Student Resource Scheme.

If the initial payment has been made without the signed Participation Agreement Form, a form will be sent home for signature. As this form is an important school financial record, please sign and return to the office promptly.

When fees have been made by internet banking, payment in advance or have been paid by another source on your behalf, the Participation Agreement Form needs to be completed and returned to the school office immediately.

All term instalments are due for payment in the first two weeks of each term. A Term Payment Calendar is included in the 2015 Student Resource Scheme package for your information.

It is not the aim of the school to disadvantage students in any way. However, the school budget relies heavily on full financial support from all families. If financial constraints prevent payment at this time, please contact the principal on 4945 0111 or Megan Drennan on 4945 0101 to negotiate the terms of payment. In order to be of assistance to families, good communication with the school is essential.
REMINDER: Any unpaid resource scheme fees from previous years remain a debt to Proserpine State High School. Please endeavour to make regular payments to clear all outstanding debts.

Students Out & About

JAPAN SKI TRIP

The school ski trip once again headed to Japan for an action packed two weeks.

After a long day of travel we arrived at our accommodation in Kyoto. Day 1 started with a hearty Japanese buffet breakfast with a wide range of food, lots of variety and new things to try. First cultural eating challenge – fermented soybeans. Let’s just say the boys (some) have a lot more persistence or silliness to be goaded.

After navigating the subway and a mad dash, we were on the Shinkansen headed for Hiroshima. Quite a humbling experience as could be imagined with a visit to The Bomb Dome and museum. Some spare time was spent navigating the shopping precinct. This lifted our spirits and gave some interesting experiences for lunch. Back on the Shinkansen for dinner in Kyoto. A quick scout around and most were settled into Japanese restaurants, trying ramen to curries to tempura based dishes.

Day 2, a tour of the Golden Pavilion, Nijo Castle and the Kiyomizu Dera. A cultural challenge - run the stairs! Boys again venturing to have their fortune told and some more shopping before departing for the hills.

After driving through the countryside and a drop in temperature we arrived at our winter wonderland. Next challenge was trying on clothes, boots and managing various items of equipment and off to lessons. Snowboarding and skiing are definitely an adrenalin sports, with each managing various degrees of success, perseverance and laughs. Five days exploring the mountains. Fresh snow fell overnight giving new challenges of navigating or playing in fresh powder. The Ezura drumming show and Japanese buffet dinner was definitely amazing and a highlight.

Asaka Nishi High was next on the itinerary. Some were eager to finally meet their hosts. A great opportunity to spend two nights with a Japanese family, half day in the classroom, a calligraphy class and a traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony.

The trip concluded with a day shopping in Tokyo (Shinjuku or Shibuya) then a day at Disneyland with the sister school students.

The next Japan ski trip is scheduled for January 2017.

Mrs Leanne Farr  
Ski Trip Coordinator

General Information

MESSAGE TO PARENTS:

Message requests for students through the office

Please note that while it is possible to deliver messages to students through the office during the school day, we cannot guarantee delivery of every message. URGENT messages will obviously get priority but every day messages (for example, regarding after school arrangements) should be organised between parent and student whilst at home.

NEWSLETTER SIDE PANEL

Previous Newsletters

By clicking on the Archive Newsletter tab on the side panel of the newsletter, you can view previous school newsletters.

School Calendar

You can check what is happening at the school by clicking on School Calendar. To view more details of an event, just click on it or move your mouse over it to find out more information. If you move further down the page and if your student is in Year 12 you can click on the purple ‘Year 12’ box and only Year 12 items will show for you.

To Print out the Newsletter

Click on PDF Print Version and then click on print so you do not waste heaps of paper.

Up-Date Your Contact Records

• Have you changed your address, phone number, email address, etc.?
• Have you changed jobs recently?
• Has your son/daughter’s medical details changed?

Return to the beginning of the newsletter and in the left side bar please open ‘Forms and Documents’, print out the appropriate form/forms (UP-DATE YOUR CONTACT RECORDS or MEDICAL INFORMATION CHANGES), fill in the form/s and then return it/them to the office. You are welcome to call into the office to have the changes made on the spot so you can be contacted when your student becomes unwell or in case of an emergency.

Just some of the features our eNewsletter offers:

Medication at School

Any prescription medication should be left at the office in the original container provided by the pharmacy (clearly indicating dosage), along with a note from the student’s parents giving permission for the medication to be taken during school hours.

Parents please note that non-script items such as Panadol can be stored in the student’s own school bag and taken as required. Non-script items are not kept at the office.
REMINDER
All text books, library books and other resources from 2014 must be returned to the Resource Centre with an accompanying note clearly indicating the name of the returning student. It is vital that every effort is made to return the resources booked out to your student from last year so that you do not receive an invoice for outstanding items. These unreturned resources are depriving other students of their use in 2015.

Uniform Store Update
Back to school has made for some very busy days in the Uniform Store. Thank you families for your patience and cheery attitude towards store volunteers and staff over what were some VERY hot days in the Multi-Purpose Hall. Throw in warnings of a severe weather event last Thursday which caused the store to close early, and it all rounds off an eventful week of extended hours of operation. While the vast majority of orders have been completed in full we are beginning to see gaps in our stock. Orders for out of stock items will be placed however will not be delivered until end of Term 1 at least. We have had MANY enquiries re school hats. Late 2014 the Parents & Citizen Association endorsed a bucket hat with school logo in front. These too will be available after Easter.

As usual, a reminder that Proserpine State High School would appreciate the donation of any new style uniforms you may have that are no longer required. Alternately you may wish to advertise the sale of second hand uniforms to other families via future newsletters. With gaps in our stock levels there is presently a need for original logo day polos in boys (sizes M, L, XL and 2XL as well as day shorts 2XL and 3XL). Girls formal blouse, original logo (size 12) are also in demand.

Mrs Lynn Larkin
Uniform Store Convenor

Canteen News
Welcome to all our new students, teachers and parents. Our new menu and volunteer roster is available in the canteen and is also attached to the school newsletter and website. We have had to implement a few price changes this year but thanks to the help of our volunteers we have been able to keep these to a minimum. Our new junior students are finding their way to the canteen in search of something cool. ZING ice blocks have been a popular way to cool down for only $1.00.

We are currently trialling a few ideas to help with the demand of increased student numbers this year, many hands make light work so we will strive to do the best we can with what we have! Volunteers are most welcome in the canteen, so if you have a few spare hours each month we would love to have your help to fill the gaps on our Volunteer Roster. If you are new to our school this is a great way to meet your child’s new friends, their teachers and hopefully make a new friend yourself. Phone Convenor, Sue Walker on 4945 0119.

PLEASE NOTE:
Due to Health & Safety Act, the Proserpine State High School canteen CANNOT reheat or store food brought in from home. Students are responsible for the storage of their own lunchboxes, so please make sure they have appropriate icepacks, etc. to keep food at a safe temperature, especially in this extremely hot weather.

Looking forward to a busy, fun filled Term one.

Cheers from the canteen ladies...

NEW & USED School Uniforms for Sale
CANNONVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL uniforms
1 x size L sports HORNET gold shirt - $10
3 x size M polo shirts - $18 ea
3 x size L shorts - $12 ea
All near new
1 hat (brand new) $10
OR the lot $100
Phone 0427 131 305

Important Dates for 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terms</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>Tuesday 27 January – Thursday 2 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Monday 20 April – Friday 26 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Monday 13 July – Friday 18 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Tuesday 6 October – Friday 11 December</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19 October</td>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 November</td>
<td>Year 12s last day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 November</td>
<td>Years 10 &amp; 11 last day</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Holidays</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 April</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 April</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 April</td>
<td>Anzac Day (Saturday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 June</td>
<td>Show Whitsunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 October</td>
<td>Labour Day</td>
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Important Dates Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03.02.15</td>
<td>Year 12 Pathways to Success Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04.02.15</td>
<td>School Photos;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
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<td>------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>05.02.15</td>
<td>Catch-up Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.02.15</td>
<td>Induction Ceremony 9am in the Multi-Purpose Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.02.15</td>
<td>Oliver Production Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.02.15</td>
<td>GRIP Leadership Workshop in Mackay; Newsletter out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.02.15</td>
<td>Senior Leadership Professional Development; P&amp;C AGM 7pm followed by P&amp;C meeting 7:30pm in the administration school common room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.02.15</td>
<td>Senior Leadership Professional Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.02.15</td>
<td>In The Swim Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02.03.15</td>
<td>Newsletter out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03.03.15</td>
<td>Year 8 immunisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04.03.15</td>
<td>Year 10 boys immunisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04-05.05.15</td>
<td>Start the Switch Summit in Mackay 10 students attending</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05.03.15</td>
<td>Year 7 and 8 Parent Information Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-11.03.15</td>
<td>Year 7 Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.03.15</td>
<td>Mocktails in Mackay</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.03.15</td>
<td>Newsletter out</td>
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<tr>
<td>18.03.15</td>
<td>P&amp;C meeting 7pm in the administration school common room</td>
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<tr>
<td>23-26.03.15</td>
<td>Year 11 and 12 exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>30.03.15</td>
<td>Newsletter out</td>
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For the sporting calendar dates see Sports Trial Dates towards the beginning of this newsletter.

**Community News**

**COWBOYS COMMUNITY DAY**
Sunday 15 February from 2 to 4pm
Townsville RSL Stadium Annandale

**FOSTER CARER**
Could You Be One?

**WHITSUNDAY NETBALL ASSOCIATION**

**Junior Sign On & Fun Day**

**DATE:** 7/2/2015
**AGES:** 5-16
**TIME:** 12PM-3PM

Face Painting
Lucky Door Prize
Sausage Sizzle

Meet & Greet with Coaches and Game Play 1pm

For more information netballwhitsunday@gmail.com
Please bring suitable clothing, footwear and a water bottle.
Note: that we do not have access to clean facilities and are a cash only Club.
Are you a scientist, IT professional or an engineer? Would you enjoy inspiring teachers and students in science, mathematics or information technology? Would you like to become a volunteer scientist, mathematician or IT professional? If you answered YES to any of these questions please open the attached for more information.