



PROSERPINE
STATE HIGH SCHOOL

*Local Spirit
Universal Success*

4 Ruge Street
Proserpine QLD 4800

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Email: admin@proserpineshs.eq.edu.au

Phone: 07 4945 0111

4th August 2026

Date Claimers

Week 4

Wednesday 5th August - Australian Festival of Chamber Music, Year 12 Uni Life Application Info Evening

Thursday 6th August - Interschool Debating Competition, Hummingbird House Fundraiser Day

Friday 7th August - Year 10 RYDA Program

Week 5

Monday 10th - Friday 14th August - National Science Week

Tuesday 11th August - Year 9 Deadly Choices, Certificate II & III Health Incursion

Wednesday 12th August - Junior School Parade, Year 6 into 7 Parent/Carer Information Evening #2, P&C Meeting

Thursday 13th August - Whitsunday Athletics Trials

Friday 14th August - QMEA STEM Centre Excursion, 2027 Senior Leaders Nominations Due

Week 6

Monday 17th - Friday 21st August - Inclusivity Week

Monday 17th August - Senior Leaders Induction

Tuesday 18th August - 2026 QATSIF Graduation Ceremony, Year 9 Deadly Choices, Instrumental Music Lunchtime Concert

Friday 21st August - Wear It Purple Day, Seagrass Theatre Night

Sunday 23rd August - Year 7-8 Tournament of Minds

Principal Perspective

School Expectations

Following on from my letter to all families in Semester 1, I reiterate that Proserpine State High School stands firm against poor behaviour and remains committed to upholding strong expectations for every student.

At Proserpine State High School, the overwhelming majority of students engage positively in their learning and demonstrate our values of being Respectful, Responsible and Engaged. Their achievements, contributions and aspirations reflect the positive culture of our school and deserve to be recognised and celebrated.

We make no apology for maintaining high standards. Every student has the right to learn, and every staff member has the right to work in a safe and respectful environment.

Our focus will always be on helping students make positive choices and learn from their mistakes. However, when behaviour compromises the safety, wellbeing or learning of others, we will act. We will not be deterred from applying strong consequences, including suspension or exclusion, when necessary and consistent with our Student Code of Conduct.

We are a proud state school and will continue to represent our community with pride. We stand for the many students who come to school each day

determined to build their future through university, vocational education or employment pathways.

Strong school culture is built through partnership. I ask parents and carers to reinforce our expectations at home and support the school when consequences are applied.

We thank our community for supporting our school and the standards for which we stand.

NAIDOC Week Celebrations

I commend our staff and students for their strong engagement with our NAIDOC Week celebrations. It was wonderful to see students participate in a range of activities that encouraged them to listen, learn and deepen their understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

This year's theme, 50 Years of Deadly, celebrated five decades of NAIDOC and recognises the strength, pride and achievements of First Nations peoples. Our program provided meaningful opportunities to celebrate culture, build understanding and strengthen respect across our school community.

I particularly thank Mrs McDonald and Mrs O'Keefe for organising and coordinating the week-long program. I also extend my appreciation to Mr Kapitz for coordinating our Soccer House Challenge.

Welcome - Japanese Sister School

We are thrilled to welcome students and staff from Asaka Nishi High School in Japan. Hosting visitors from our sister school provides a wonderful opportunity for our students to learn about another culture, broaden their perspectives and develop greater global awareness.



We sincerely thank our host students and their families, and staff for their generosity and hospitality in making this visit possible. Cultural exchanges create memorable experiences, strengthen understanding and respect, and build lasting friendships. We look forward to sharing our school and local community with our visitors throughout their stay.

Athletics Carnival



Congratulations to Cook House, who were clear winners, and to all our Age Champions. A special mention goes to Shailee Mewha, who broke school records in the long-distance events.

I congratulate all students for their cooperation, conduct and House spirit throughout the day. A particularly memorable moment was the enthusiastic war cry battle at the end of the day, which showcased the pride and energy of each House. Well done to everyone involved and to Cook who topped the decibel monitor.

School Opinion Survey now open



This year's School Opinion Survey runs from 28 July to 22 August. Parents, carers, students in selected year levels, and staff have been emailed a link to participate.

Your feedback will help us understand our school's strengths and areas for improvement. Survey responses are confidential.

The survey usually takes less than 10 minutes to complete.

Find out more on the School Opinion Survey web-page or contact school administration.

Success into Senior

It was wonderful to see so many parents and students attend our recent Subject Selection Evening for current Year 9 and Year 10 students. This is a crucial time as students navigate important decisions regarding their senior schooling. If families require further advice about our wide range of subjects or post-school pathways, our Senior Schooling team is available to assist.

Two important events are fast approaching: the Year 9 JET Planning (Success into Senior) interviews and the Year 10 SET Planning interviews. These stu-

dent-centred meetings are designed to support a smooth transition from junior to senior schooling.

JET Planning is an important process that supports students to make well-informed subject choices as they enter Year 10. Establishing a strong foundation in Year 10 will assist students in selecting appropriate subjects for Years 11 and 12 and contribute to their future success.

Our Year 10 SET Plan meetings are an important point of communication between students, parents and caregivers, and the school. These meetings support the selection of suitable pathways for Years 11 and 12 and explore additional opportunities, including external courses, TAFE, school-based traineeships and apprenticeships.

Important dates:

Year 9 JET Plan interviews — Friday 28 August

Year 10 SET Plan interviews — Tuesday 1 September



Don

Mr Don McDermid
Principal

principal@proserpineshs.qg.edu.au

Crazy Hat Day Returns To Support Hummingbird House



On Thursday, Proserpine State High School will proudly host the fourth annual Crazy Hat Day, a much-loved event that continues to honour the memory of former student Cody Gibbs.

Crazy Hat Day began in 2023 when Cody's classmates approached the Student Council with the idea of creating a special event in his memory following his tragic passing from brain cancer in 2022. Together, they chose to support Hummingbird House, Queensland's only dedicated children's palliative care service, where many of Cody's closest friends spent precious time with him and his family.

Now in its fourth year, Crazy Hat Day has become a meaningful tradition that celebrates Cody's life while raising vital funds for a service that provides compassionate care and support to children with life-limiting conditions and their families.

We encourage our school community to wear their craziest hats, get involved and support this wonderful cause. If you are unable to attend or would still like to contribute, donations can be made using the fundraising link below.

Thank you for helping us continue this special tradition and make a difference for families supported by Hummingbird House.

<https://fundraise.wmq.org.au/fundraisers/ProssieHgh/2026-crazy-hat-day-iv>

Save the Date!

Upcoming Events!

PROSERPINE STATE HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT AND STUDENT INFORMATION EVENING

TRANSITION TO University

IN 2027

Join us!

WEDNESDAY 5 AUGUST

5:30 PM

PROSERPINE HIGH LECTURE THEATRE

INFORMATION THAT WILL BE PRESENTED

- How to apply to university
- QTAC – how it works
- Scholarships
- Accommodation
- Key dates
- Key information regarding financial supports
- What to expect and where to get support

PRESENTED BY

KAREN O'KEEFE
GUIDANCE OFFICER

SHELLEY SIMPSON
LINK AND LAUNCH COORDINATOR

Information today • Decisions tomorrow • Success for life

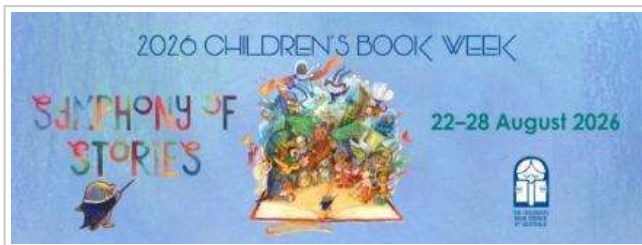
2027 KEY DATES

Family Enrolment Evening
Wednesday 12th August
5.30pm - 8.00pm
8pm - Information session covering EVCD devices, policies & procedures

Primary School Visits
Tuesday 8th September - Proserpine & Bloomfield State Schools
Wednesday 9th September - Cannonvale & Hamilton Island State Schools

Non-State School Visit
Tuesday 15th September - After 3pm

Transition Day
Monday 7th December
Students spend a full day at school



Student Achievements

Cassius Earns Place At Queensland Training Awards State Finals



Congratulations to Year 12 student Cassius McLeod, who has achieved outstanding success at the Queensland Training Awards – North Queensland Regional Finals, taking out the top honour in his category.

Cassius' regional victory has secured him a place at the Queensland Training Awards State Finals, to be held in Brisbane on Saturday, 19 September, where he will compete against the best finalists from across Queensland.

This prestigious achievement is a testament to Cassius' dedication, commitment and outstanding efforts in vocational education and training. His success reflects the hard work he has invested in developing his skills and pursuing his career goals.

The entire Proserpine State High School community is incredibly proud of Cassius and wishes him every success as he prepares to represent our region at the State Finals.

Congratulations, Cassius, on this remarkable achievement, and good luck in Brisbane!

From Our Deputies

2026 NAPLAN - Understanding Your Child's Report

Parents and carers should now have received their child's 2026 NAPLAN Individual Student Report. While these results provide valuable information about your child's literacy and numeracy development, they are only one part of the broader picture of their learning.

Understanding the Report

NAPLAN results are reported against proficiency standards, which describe what students typically know and can do at their year level. Rather than reporting a numerical score alone, student achievement is classified into one of four proficiency levels:

- **Exceeding** – The student is performing above the expected standard.
- **Strong** – The student has demonstrated a sound understanding of the expected knowledge and skills.
- **Developing** – The student is progressing towards the expected standard.
- **Needs Additional Support** – The student would benefit from additional assistance to develop the expected knowledge and skills.

On the report you will also see:

- **Black Dot** – Your child's result.
- **Black Triangle** – The national average for students in the same year level.
- **Shaded Box** – The range in which the middle 60% of Australian students achieved.

These comparisons provide useful context, but they should not be viewed as a ranking of your child. Every student learns at a different pace and brings different strengths to their learning.

Three Questions to Discuss With Your Child

Rather than focusing on the score itself, use the report as an opportunity to have a positive conversation about learning.

What are you most proud of in your NAPLAN results? Why?

Celebrate areas of strength and acknowledge the effort your child put into preparing for and completing the assessments. Confidence grows when students recognise what they are already doing well.

What can you do to improve your literacy and numeracy skills?

Every learner has areas for growth. Talk about one or two skills your child would like to strengthen and how school and home can work together to support that improvement. The goal is continuous growth, not perfection.

How do these results compare with your school report?

Your child's report card reflects achievement across an entire semester of learning, while NAPLAN measures specific literacy and numeracy skills on particular assessment days. Looking at both together can help identify patterns:

- Are the strengths similar?
- Are there any differences worth discussing?
- What do both sets of information tell us about your child's learning?

These conversations help students develop an understanding of their own learning and encourage them to take ownership of their progress.

Working Together

At Proserpine State High School, we use NAPLAN results alongside classroom evidence to ensure every student receives the appropriate level of challenge and support. The information assists teachers in planning learning experiences that build on each student's strengths while targeting areas for further development.

If you have questions about your child's report, please contact your child's classroom teacher. For families wanting a simple explanation of how to read the NAPLAN Individual Student Report, ACARA has produced a short video:



Rex

Mr Rex Bertrand
Deputy Principal
Inclusion
rbert3@eq.edu.au

From Our HODs

Assessment Preparation: Supporting Your Student

As we prepare for the next assessment period, it's a great opportunity to check in with your student and offer support.

Assessment time can be stressful, but family support makes a big difference. Encourage your student to plan ahead, complete study in small, manageable sessions, and avoid leaving tasks until the last minute.

Healthy habits are also important. Regular sleep, nutritious food, exercise, and study breaks help students stay focused and perform at their best.

Most importantly, offer encouragement and praise effort. A positive and supportive home environment helps students build confidence and approach assessments with a growth mindset.



Cathy

Mrs Cathy Muller
Head of Department (Acting)
Junior School
cmull142@eq.edu.au

Students Take The Next Step With White Card Training

Following the success of our recent Apprenticeship Readiness Evening, a number of Proserpine State High School students have successfully completed their Construction Industry White Card training.

The nationally recognised qualification is an important first step for students considering a career in the construction industry. It is a mandatory requirement for working on construction sites and provides access to valuable opportunities, including work experience, school-based apprenticeships and traineeships, and future employment across a range of trade industries.

It has been fantastic to see students inspired by the Apprenticeship Readiness Evening and taking proactive steps towards achieving their career goals.

Congratulations to all students who successfully completed the training and invested in their future.

Subject Selection Evening Helps Students Plan Their Future

Proserpine State High School recently welcomed students and families to our Subject Selection Evening and Subject Expo for students entering Years 10 and 11 in 2027.

The evening provided an excellent opportunity for students to explore the wide range of subjects and pathways available, speak with Heads of Department and teachers, and gain valuable advice to help them make informed decisions about their senior schooling and future career aspirations.

It was wonderful to see so many families actively engaging in the process and supporting our young people as they planned the next stage of their educational journey.

We sincerely thank AXIAL Training and TAFE Queensland for their valuable support throughout the evening, along with our dedicated staff, student helpers and families for contributing to the event's success.

A reminder to all current Year 10 students that subject selections must be submitted through OneSchool by 4.00 pm on Wednesday.

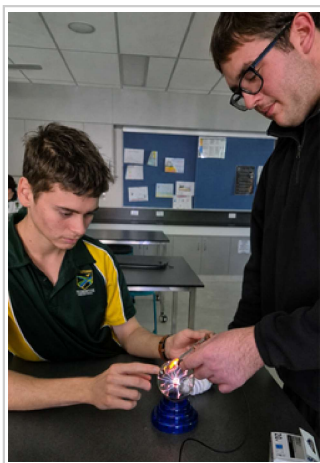


Nick

Mr Nicholas Kapitz
Head of Department
Middle Phase
nkapi5@eq.edu.au

From Our Classrooms

Year 12 Physics Investigates Atomic Spectra



Our Year 12 Physics students recently investigated the fascinating world of atomic physics by exploring the unique light produced by different elements us-

ing gas discharge tubes and spectroscopes.

During the practical investigation, students observed the distinctive emission spectra of elements including hydrogen, helium and neon, discovering that each element produces its own unique pattern of coloured light. These spectral "fingerprints" provide important clues about the structure of atoms and the behaviour of electrons.

The experiment helped students develop their understanding of how electrons absorb and release energy as they move between energy levels within an atom. They also discovered how these same scientific principles are used by astronomers to identify the composition of distant stars and galaxies, highlighting the connection between classroom learning and real-world scientific research.

Hands-on investigations such as these provide students with valuable practical experience while bringing complex scientific concepts to life, inspiring curiosity about the universe and the science that helps us understand it.

Outside Our Classrooms

Year 12 Students Excel In Bond University Business Extension Program

Congratulations to our Year 12 students Milana Gorshechnikov, Cassius McLeod, Maddie Davie, Wiremu Tairaki, Parys Fisher, Tiare Saalfeld, Yana McNally and Rhylea, who have successfully completed the Bond University Business Extension Program.

Throughout the program, students challenged themselves by completing university-level assessments and presentations, gaining valuable insight into tertiary study while developing their academic, communication and professional skills. The experience provided an excellent opportunity to explore university expectations while earning recognition for their commitment and achievement.

A special congratulations goes to Milana Gorshechnikov, who achieved an outstanding High Distinction (equivalent to an A+) and placed third overall in the program. In recognition of this exceptional accomplishment, Milana was awarded a \$10,000 bursary towards future study at Bond University.



We are incredibly proud of all of our students for embracing this opportunity, challenging themselves beyond the classroom and representing Proserpine State High School with dedication, determination and excellence.

Congratulations to each of these students on their outstanding achievements. We look forward to seeing all they accomplish in the future.

Hospitality Students Served A Taste Of Industry



Our Year 11 Hospitality students recently stepped beyond the classroom and into the local hospitality industry as part of their Casual Dining unit.

During visits to Little Vintage Café and Healthy Haven, students gained valuable real-world experience by exploring menu design, observing the day-to-day operations of successful cafés and experiencing quality customer service firsthand. They also had the opportunity to order and enjoy meals from the menu, helping them develop a greater understanding of the customer experience in a casual dining setting.



The excursion provided an authentic learning opportunity, allowing students to connect the knowledge and skills developed in the classroom with real workplace practices. Experiences like these help prepare students for future employment and build a deeper appreciation of the high standards required across both front and back of house hospitality operations.

We sincerely thank the teams at Little Vintage Café and Healthy Haven for once again welcoming our students, sharing their expertise and continuing to support our Hospitality program. Partnerships with local businesses play an important role in enriching our students' learning and providing meaningful industry experiences.

Instrumental Music Students Hit The Right Note On Mackay Tour



At the beginning of Term 3, our Instrumental Music students embarked on an exciting four-day music tour to Mackay, enjoying an inspiring program of performances, workshops and professional learning opportunities.

Throughout the tour, the Concert Band and String Ensemble proudly represented Proserpine State High School by performing at the Whitsunday Voices Festival. Students also had the privilege of attending performances by Ensemble Q and Camerata, gaining valuable insight into the artistry and professionalism of some of Australia's leading musicians.

As part of the Mackay Chamber Music Festival, students participated in a range of masterclasses designed to further develop their musical skills and performance techniques. They also collaborated with students and staff from Mackay State High School and Whitsunday Anglican School through rehearsals and workshops, providing a wonderful opportunity to learn, perform and connect with fellow young musicians.



The tour wasn't all about music, with students also taking time to enjoy the natural beauty of Cape Hillsborough, providing a chance to relax, recharge and appreciate one of the region's iconic coastal destinations.

Experiences such as these are invaluable in developing students' confidence, musicianship and appreciation for the performing arts. A sincere thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the tour and made this memorable experience possible for our students.

Young Musicians Honoured In State Ensemble Program



Congratulations to Tessa Young, Jasper Korosec and Calvin Murphy, who have been recognised for their participation in the prestigious State Honours Ensemble Program.

Held in Townsville, the program brings together talented young musicians from across Queensland, providing participants with the opportunity to extend their musical knowledge, refine their performance skills and pursue excellence alongside like-minded students.

Being selected for the State Honours Ensemble Program is a significant achievement and reflects the dedication, commitment and passion that Tessa, Jasper and Calvin have shown through their Instrumental Music studies.

We are incredibly proud of their accomplishments and the way they have represented Proserpine State High School.

A special thank you also goes to Instrumental Music teacher Amanda Mattiske, whose expertise, encouragement and dedication continue to inspire and support our young musicians in achieving their very best.

Congratulations to Tessa, Jasper and Calvin on this outstanding achievement!

Young Artists Shine At Reeflections Student Art Competition

Our talented Visual Art students have achieved outstanding success at the Reeflections Student Art Competition, held on 31 July at the Heart Hotel.

Judged by Mayor Ry Collins, the competition showcased an impressive collection of student artwork from across the region, highlighting the creativity and talent of young artists.

Congratulations to Natalie Cooper (Year 12), who was awarded First Prize for her artwork, *Guardians of the Reef*, and Charlize Hunter (Year 8), who received Second Prize for her piece, *Woodsia*.



Congratulations also to Sarah Hart (Year 10), who won the major random draw prize from all finalists—a two-night family stay for two adults and two children at the Grand Mercure, Magnetic Island.

We are incredibly proud of all six students who represented Proserpine State High School - Natalie Cooper (Year 12), Matilda Murphy (Year 11), Lily Smith (Year 11), Sarah Hart (Year 10), Charlize Hunter (Year 8) and Ellen Smith (Year 8). Each student demonstrated exceptional creativity, commitment and enthusiasm throughout the competition and represented our school with pride. Their dedication and willingness to embrace creative challenges made them an absolute pleasure to work with.



Congratulations to all of our students on their outstanding achievements.

The Reeflections Student Art Competition exhibition will be on display at the Art Hotel Gallery throughout the month of August, giving the community the opportunity to view these inspiring works of art.

Sports News

House Spirit Shines At 2026 Athletics Carnival



The annual Proserpine State High School Athletics Carnival was held on Wednesday, 29 July, with students enjoying a fantastic day of competition,

House spirit and personal achievement under beautiful sunny skies.

There was strong participation across the Under 13 and Under 14 age divisions, with all four Houses well represented throughout the day. While overall participation numbers were lower than in previous years, students who competed demonstrated outstanding determination, sportsmanship and enthusiasm.

Several athletes delivered exceptional performances. In the 16 Years Girls distance events, Peppa Geisel and Millie Groom once again showcased their outstanding endurance. Despite battling the flu, Shailee Mewha produced an incredible performance, setting new school records in the 14 Years Girls 800m, 1500m and 3000m events. Her 2 minutes 30.76 seconds 800m was slower than last years performance as was her 10 minutes 56.86 seconds 3000m (only by 2.6 seconds). She then ran the second fastest 1500m ever by a girl at Proserpine State High School to record 5 minutes 01.74 seconds. She needs to run sub 5 minutes next year to beat Peppa's 4 minutes 59.4 sec record.



After a closely contested day of competition, Cook House claimed the 2026 House Shield with 979 points, narrowly defeating defending champions Kennedy House by just 27 points. Flinders House finished third with 914 points, followed by Oxley House on 809 points.

The Best All Rounder award, presented to the student who accumulated the most points across all events, was won by Shailee Mewha with 83.5 points. She was closely followed by Year 7 student Willow Kenny with 82.5 points, while Shannon Matthews finished third with 74 points.



Congratulations to every student who participated and represented their House with pride. Whether striving for a personal best, setting new records or simply giving every event their best effort, every competitor contributed to another successful carnival. Congratulations to all age champions below. A special mention goes to Mila Parkinson, who finished just one point behind the winner in the closely fought 15 Years Girls age championship.

2026 Age Champions

Age Group	Girls	Boys
13 Years	Willow Kenny (Flinders)	Calvin Murphy (Oxley)
14 Years	Shailee Mewha (Kennedy)	Luke Greenhill (Kennedy)
15 Years	Roxanne Groom (Flinders)	Shannon Matthews (Cook)
16 Years	Kobe Manley (Cook)	William Marshall (Cook)
17/18 Years	Pania Corowa (Kennedy)	Cassius McLeod (Oxley)



A sincere thank you to all staff who assisted throughout the day. Your support and organisation once again helped make the Athletics Carnival one of the highlights of the school year.

Next Stop: Whitsunday Athletics Carnival

Students who placed first or second in an event have qualified to represent Proserpine State High School at the Whitsunday Athletics Carnival, to be held at our school on Thursday, 13 August. Qualifying students should ensure they have collected their permission forms and returned them, along with the required trial fee, to the school office.

Following the Whitsunday Carnival, students who place first in the 100m, 200m, 400m and 800m events will automatically qualify for the North Queensland Trials, while second-place competitors may be nominated based on their recorded times. Students who finish first or second in field events and the 1500m, 3000m and 5000m events will also qualify for the North Queensland Championships.

The North Queensland Athletics Trials will be held in Townsville on Wednesday, 26 August.

Students wishing to undertake additional training during lunchtimes or after school are encouraged to speak with Mr Cox or a member of the HPE staff to arrange training opportunities.



Andrew

Mr Andrew Cox
Head of Department
Health and Physical Education
acox41@eq.edu.au

Student Support Services Team

Health Matters

SchoolTV - Special Report

Mental Health Literacy: A Guided Reflection



Mental health is an essential part of a young person's overall wellbeing, influencing how they think, feel, learn and interact with others. Yet many of us can feel uncertain about how best to identify concerns, start conversations or access appropriate support.

Mental health literacy is not about becoming an expert. It's about recognising when something isn't right, knowing how to respond and understanding where to seek help when needed. By building this awareness and capability, we can play an important role in supporting wellbeing, reducing stigma and encouraging early help-seeking.

This Special Report explores how we can strengthen our mental health literacy and includes a Mental Health Literacy Reflection Tool. By completing a series of questions, you can reflect on your own understanding, confidence and readiness to support the mental health and wellbeing of young people.

It is an opportunity to identify your strengths, recognise areas where you may wish to build your knowledge and take positive steps towards feeling more confident in supporting children and young people.

Here is the link to this topic

http://proserpineshs.eq.schooltv.me/wellbeing_new/s/special-report-mental-health-literacy-guided-reflection-au



Karen

Mrs Karen Dachs
School Based Youth Health Nurse
kdach1@eq.edu.au

Yarning Circle

Join the Junior ATSIAP Team!



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are invited to join Proserpine State High School's Junior ATSIAP (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Academic Program) Team and represent the school at the Townsville Challenge on Thursday, 20 August 2026.

The ATSIAP Challenge is a fun and rewarding opportunity to build confidence, leadership, teamwork and problem-solving skills while competing against schools from across North Queensland. Team members work together to complete a range of challenges, including a persuasive speech, long-term problem-solving presentation (skit), commercial task, quiz and artwork, with everyone contributing to each activity.

Last year, our newly formed Junior team achieved an outstanding result by winning the Art Challenge, and this year we're hoping to build on that success. The competition, held at James Cook University in Townsville, also provides a valuable pathway to our Senior ATSIAP Team, which earlier this year placed second at the regional competition and progressed to the state finals in Brisbane.

If you enjoy working as part of a team, want to challenge yourself and are proud to represent your school and culture, we'd love to hear from you.

Interested students should see Mr Gabey as soon as possible for more information.

Japanese Students Experience First Nations Culture

Our school recently welcomed visiting Japanese students for an engaging cultural exchange that celebrated Aboriginal traditions, knowledge and games.

Thanks to the support of our student and staff volunteers, visitors explored the significance of boomerangs, traditional Aboriginal artwork and the stories told through cultural symbols representing features of Country, including waterholes, mountains, tracks and seasonal animals.

Students also participated in Edor/Ita, a traditional Aboriginal game that develops teamwork, fitness, agility and strategic thinking. The fast-paced tag game proved to be a favourite, with plenty of enthusiasm and friendly competition throughout the session.

It was wonderful to see students from both cultures learning together through shared experiences. We look forward to continuing this program next year, with our Indigenous students taking a greater leadership role in delivering the activities and sharing their cultural knowledge with visiting students.

Deadly Choices Program Supports Student Wellbeing

This term, selected Year 9 students are participating in the Deadly Choices Program, an eight-week health education program delivered by the Deadly Choices team from Mackay.

The program empowers students to make informed choices about their health and wellbeing while strengthening their connection to culture. Throughout the course, students explore topics including cultural responsibility, healthy relationships, nutrition, physical activity, tobacco and vaping awareness, and physical and sexual health.

Sessions combine interactive activities with open discussions, creating a safe and supportive environment for students to learn and ask questions. At

the completion of the program, participants will receive a certificate recognising their commitment and participation.

We encourage eligible students to make the most of this valuable opportunity.



Arthur

Mr Arthur Gabey
Community Education Counsellor
agabey6@eq.edu.au

NAIDOC WEEK 2026 – 50 YEARS OF DEADLY

Our school proudly celebrated NAIDOC Week 2026 with this year's theme, "50 Years of Deadly," recognising the strength, achievements and enduring culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Celebrations began with a Smoking Ceremony led by Traditional Owner Robbie Congoo, followed by a Welcome to Country at our whole-school parade. Senior Indigenous Leader Miley Thompson delivered an inspiring speech, encouraging students to celebrate culture with pride and confidence.

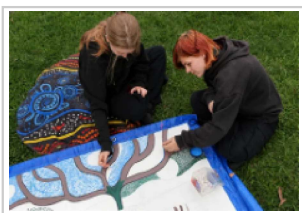


Throughout the week, First Nations students participated in a student forum to share ideas and strengthen Indigenous perspectives within our school community. Year 7 and 8 students also joined an Eco Barge excursion at Airlie Beach, collecting marine debris and learning about the importance of caring for Country and protecting local wildlife. Meeting the rescued sea turtles was a highlight for many students.



Lunchtime Indigenous art activities, clay painting with visiting Year 6 students from Proserpine State School, the annual NAIDOC House Soccer Challenge

and health promotion activities with the Deadly Choices team rounded out a memorable week of celebration, learning and connection.



Thank you to everyone who contributed to making NAIDOC Week such a meaningful success. Stay deadly!

First Nations Student Opportunities

A number of exciting opportunities are currently available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. These programs provide valuable experiences in university pathways, leadership, culture and creativity. Students interested in applying, or seeking further information, are encouraged to see Mr Gabey or Mrs McDonald at the Student Advisory Centre.

Australian National University Indigenous Summer School 2026

Applications are now open for the **Australian National University (ANU) National Indigenous Summer School 2026**, a unique opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students currently in **Years 10 and 11** who are considering university study.

Hosted by the **Tjabal Indigenous Higher Education Centre** and ANU Colleges, the week-long program will be held from **6–12 December 2026**. Students will participate in hands-on learning experiences designed to explore university life while inspiring future education and career pathways.

The program is fully funded, with **accommodation, transport, catering and workshop materials** provided by the Tjabal Indigenous Higher Education Centre and ANU Colleges.

To be eligible, students must:

- Be currently enrolled in **Year 10 or Year 11**.
- Identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander student.
- Have an interest in **STEMM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine) and/or **HASS** (Humanities and Social Sciences) subjects.

Applications close Friday, 28 August 2026.

https://proserpineshs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/11296/2026_niss_flyer.pdf

2027 Ergon and Energex Pre-apprenticeship Program

Applications are now open for the **2027 Ergon and Energex Pre-apprenticeship Program**.

This exciting opportunity allows eligible students entering Years 11 and 12 in 2027 to complete a fully funded **Certificate II in Electrotechnology (Career Start)** through TAFE Queensland while gaining valuable industry experience within Queensland's energy sector.

The Bowen Ergon Energy depot will host participants in 2027.

Applications close **Monday, 10 August 2026 at 9:00 am**.

For more information and to apply, visit:

<https://tafeqld.edu.au/employers/partnerships/energy-queensland-partnership-program>

Harding Miller Education Foundation 2027 Scholarship

Applications are now open for the **Harding Miller Education Foundation (HMEF) 2027 Scholarship Program**.

The scholarship is available to current **Year 8 girls** attending Australian public schools who demonstrate strong academic potential, face financial barriers and are motivated to achieve success throughout their secondary education and beyond. Successful applicants commence the scholarship in **Year 9**.

For further information and to apply, visit:

<https://www.hardingmillereducationfoundation.org.au/>

Students who are interested in any of the opportunities outlined above are encouraged to speak with Mr Gabey or Mrs McDonald in the Student Advisory Centre for further information and support with applications. These programs offer outstanding opportunities to explore future pathways, build confi-

dence, and connect with culture, community, and career possibilities. We strongly encourage all interested students to apply.



Kelli

Mrs Kelli McDonald
Teacher Aide (First Nations)
kmcd0302@eq.edu.au

School News

P&C Meeting – All Welcome

Parents, carers and members of our school community are warmly invited to attend our next P&C Meeting.

The meeting will be held in the Administration Office Conference Room at 6.00 pm on Wednesday, 12 August.

The P&C plays an important role in supporting our school, and we welcome new members and fresh ideas. Whether you're a regular attendee or joining us for the first time, we'd love to see you there.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

School Opinion Survey



The School Opinion Survey (SOS) is the department's largest long-running data collection, conducted annually in Term 3 since 1998 across all Queensland State Schools, with around 700,000 respondents each year. It gathers feedback from students in Years 5, 6, 8 and 11, staff including principals, and parents/caregivers at each school. The survey assists in identifying the school's strengths and areas which may need improvement.

This year's School survey runs from Monday 27th July to Friday 21st August. Parents, carers, students in selected year levels and staff will be emailed a link to participate. Your Survey responses are confidential and usually take less than 10 minutes to complete.

<https://qed.qld.gov.au/publications/reports/statistics/schooling/schools/schoolopinionsurvey>

Student Resource Scheme

Parents and carers are reminded that Term 3 fees are now overdue.

Failure to keep up to date with Student Resource Scheme fees may result in students being ineligible for any extra-curricular activities or borrowing student resources required for their subjects.

Payments can be made via **EFTPOS, BPoint, QParents or the Qkr! app** on your electronic device. Parents who have not received an invoice or who are experiencing financial hardship are encouraged to contact our school **Finance Department on 4945 0111** to discuss available options.



We thank families for their prompt attention and ongoing support.

Canteen News



Uniform Store Hours



Uniform Shop Trading Hours

Tuesday 8.00am - 11.00am
Thursday 1.00pm - 4.00pm

Open twice a week for your convenience.

OR SHOP ONLINE ANYTIME AT theschoollocker.com.au

Have you downloaded the QParents App?

https://proserpineshs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/10701/qparents_fact_sheet_for_parents.pdf



Newsletter Side Panel

Up-Date Your Contact Records

- Parents, have you changed your address, phone number, email address, etc.?
- Parents, have you changed jobs recently?
- Parents, has your son/daughter's medical details changed?

It is most important that changes to your contact records are correct as the Transport and Main Roads (TMR) have changed the Process of Student Verification for the School Transport Assistance Scheme (STAS).

From now on the process will be completed electronically with details held in TMR's state-wide database being matched with data from OneSchool (our school records). The onerous task of checking large paper based reports has now been discontinued. If these records are not up-to-date your school transport assistance will be cancelled in cases where details held by TMR do not match student information held in OneSchool.

Please advise the school of any changes, not only for bus travel but also in case your student becomes unwell or they have an emergency situation.

How to update your records:

Return to the beginning of the newsletter and in the left side bar under 'Forms & Documents', print out the appropriate form/s (Change of Details Form or Medical Changed Details Forms), fill in the form/s and then return it/them to our

Administration Office or send the forms via email to principal@proserpineshs.eq.edu.au. You are also welcome to update all details via the QParents app or alternatively call into our office to have the changes made on the spot.

Medication at School

Any prescription medication should be left at the office after the **Request to Administer Medication at School Form** has been completed by the parent or guardian. The medication must be in the original container provided by the doctor, dentist or optometrist, **not a pharmacist**, and have clear details or instructions indicating dosage and times. The permission form is valid for one week only, unless there is a permanent medication where special negotiation will take place.

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.

Once the Request to Administer Medication at School Form has been completed and if there is a change to any previous medication subscribed then a **Medical Changed Details Form** in the left side bar under '**Forms & Documents**' can be filled out and dropped into the school.

Community News

Australian Government Mobile Service Centre





Australian Government mobile service centres

If you live in a rural area, you may need to travel greater distances to access government payments and services. To make it easier for you to access these services, we're bringing them to you and your community.

Mobile service centres (MSCs) travel extensively throughout rural and regional Australia to provide help and support. During natural disasters and emergencies, they can provide on-the-ground support for disaster recovery efforts.

Services Australia staff travel with the MSCs and can help you with Medicare and Centrelink payments and services. Our MSCs also have disabled access.

Our staff can also help veterans and their families connect to the Department of Veterans' Affairs phone line and online services.

Wi-Fi is available for visitors to the MSC and staff will be able to help you create a myGov account. myGov is a simple and secure way to access government services online.

Our staff provide you with friendly face-to-face service, information and support. From time to time, representatives from other government agencies also travel with the MSCs.

Information and help you can access on board the MSCs

We provide information, help and support to rural and regional communities, including:

- families
- older Australians
- students
- job seekers
- people with disability
- carers
- farmers
- self-employed people

We can assist you with:

- registering and using the agency's online services
- new claims for Centrelink payments
- updating and confirming Medicare and Centrelink information
- information on how financial matters may impact on payments
- assistance with payment and service options
- rural payment entitlements for eligible farmers
- non-cash Medicare transactions
- enrolling for and issuing new Medicare cards
- updating and re-issuing Medicare cards
- social work support and referrals

More Information

To view the latest itineraries for the MSCs, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice

The stopping locations are promoted in each town and on social media before each visit.

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Australian Government mobile service centres

Serving regional Australia

Visit the mobile service centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disability, carers, farmers and self-employed people.

We can also help veterans and their families connect to the Department of Veterans' Affairs phone line and online services.

Staff can provide you with information and support. They can also help you create a myGov account. myGov is a simple and secure way to access government services online.

PROSERPINE

Wednesday, 12 August 2026 9 am to 4 pm

Thursday, 13 August 2026 9 am to 2 pm

Near the post office, Main Street

For more information, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice

Could Saver Plus Help Your Family with School Costs?



Build your life-changing savings skills.

And get up to \$500 for education costs.

 saverplus.org.au
1300 610 355



With the rising cost of living continuing to impact household budgets, many families are finding it increasingly difficult to cover essential education expenses. Saver Plus is a free program designed to help eligible parents, carers and students build savings for important school-related costs while developing valuable financial skills.

Participants who complete the program can save towards items such as school uniforms, books, technology, stationery and other educational essentials, helping to reduce financial pressure and support student learning.

To be eligible, participants must:

- Be 18 years or older
- Hold a current Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card
- Receive an eligible Commonwealth social security payment
- Have a child attending school (or starting next year), or be studying themselves
- Receive a regular income
- Participate in free online financial education workshops
- Not have completed Saver Plus previously

Saver Plus is available throughout the year and may be particularly beneficial for families preparing for significant school expenses.

To find out more or check your eligibility, visit the Saver Plus website or call 1300 610 355 to speak with a program coordinator.

If you think you may be eligible, we encourage you to explore this opportunity and learn how Saver Plus can help you plan and save for your educational expenses.



Build lifelong,
life-changing
savings habits
AND
find out how **ANZ**
will double your
savings, up to \$500

Saver Plus supports people to develop life-long savings habits. It's delivered by Brotherhood of St. Laurence, The Smith Family and Berry Street Yooralla. It's funded by ANZ and Department of Social Services, learn more at saverplus.org.au

saverplus.org.au
1300 610 355

Saver Plus Information Sessions

Would you like to know more
about the Saver Plus program?

Join us for an information session
to hear more about joining or ask
any questions you may have.

Eligibility criteria apply, to find
out more visit
<https://saverplus.org.au/>

Register via link
[Register Here](#)
or via QR Code

