



# Dalby State High School

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P&C Meetings 1st Tuesday each month at 5:30pm. All welcome.

[www.dalbyshs.eq.edu.au](http://www.dalbyshs.eq.edu.au)

## NEWSLETTER

*Seek the Truth*

3rd March 2016

### From the Principal's Desk

#### Parent – Teacher Meet & Greet Evening

This event was held last week and I was very pleased to see how many parents and carers took the opportunity to 'meet the teachers'. I have received a lot of positive feedback from the parents and carers who attended, so it is likely that we will repeat this kind of event again. The BBQ was good – as were the conversations!

#### Academic and Gold & Silver Awards

Student awards based on Grade Point Average (GPA) were handed out in two formal ceremonies last week. For families new to the school, a student's GPA can be calculated by doing the following simple calculation. If an A=5, B=4, C=3, D=2 and E=1, students simply add up all their numbers and divide it by the total number of subjects they do. The result is the GPA. A student who received A, A, A, B, C, C, would add up 5+5+5+4+3+3 = 25. Divide that number by 6 and the answer is a GPA of 4.16. The higher the GPA; the better!

Students were recognized for their efforts using their GPA as the criteria. Students who have improved their GPA from one semester to the next (and with a minimum GPA of 3), were presented with an Academic Improvement Award. Students who have maintained a GPA of 4.5 or higher from one semester to the next, were presented with an Academic Recognition Award. Students who have managed to maintain a GPA of 5 from one semester to the next were presented with a Platinum Academic Award. Year 7 students will have to wait until the end of year for their awards, as they have not received a formal report card as yet.

Students were also recognized with a Gold or Silver Award in the same ceremony. These awards acknowledge industry and conduct and like the academic awards are informed by the last report card. Students with exemplary attendance were also recognized with a Platinum Attendance Award.

It was wonderful to see a large number of students receiving an award (or two, or three, or even four!).

#### Attendance

While we are talking about attendance, we have had a great start to the year, with whole-school attendance being up on the same time last year. This is a great start and I encourage all students to keep this up!

#### QCS Practice

All our Overall Position (OP) eligible year 12 students completed a full preparation program and practice test last week. The students were well engaged with the program and I am looking forward to seeing the results when they come back in a few weeks. The results will be used to inform the remainder of the QCS preparation program, before the actual test in September.

#### NAPLAN Practice

Likewise, all year 7 and 9 students will be completing a practice NAPLAN next week. AS with the QCS practice, the results will be used to work out what the focus of the preparation program needs to be, between now and the actual NAPLAN test in May.

#### Until Next Edition

Please do not hesitate to make an appointment at the school office to see me, if I can be of assistance with any matter.

*Dr Dean Russell*  
Principal

#### Date Claimers

##### March

4 IWD Presentation  
7 DD Cluster 2 Trials  
11 Vaccinations Catch Up Day  
15 DD Cluster 3 Trials  
24 End of Term 1

##### April

11 Term 2 Commences  
11-14 Year 11 Camp  
12 P&C Uniform Meeting  
12-14 Year 7 Camp  
15 Dalby Show Holiday  
19 Parent Teacher Interviews  
20 School Cross Country  
21 School Social  
22 Year 10 Cheesemaking  
25 ANZAC Day Holiday  
28 Clontarf Camp Yrs 9 & 10

## KOKODA CHALLENGE

Year 12 students have been very busy these first few weeks of school organising their Kokoda Challenge teams for this year's Gold Coast Trek on the weekend of 16th and 17th of July.

Unfortunately this year we were unable to get all our teams registered as the allocated spots for the 48km trek filled within the first 10 minutes of registration opening so we were very lucky to get 7 of our teams registered. David Schreiber, Jordan Ludowici, Karen Marini, Terri Harwood and Jordan Hart will each lead a team of 4 students in the 96km trek and Nick Topp and Kate Cobb will each lead their team of 4 students in the 48km trek. Teams will be 'fed and watered' at various check points along the way by their own support crew consisting of 2 students and another staff member.

Not only does Kokoda present a huge personal challenge to our staff and students the program raises vital funds to assist disadvantaged youth across QLD. The trek also honours Australian servicemen who fought on the Kokoda Track during World War II. The spirit of mateship, endurance, courage and sacrifice is an inspiration the teams draw upon to help them through the tough course.

Our Kokoda students are committed to raising a considerable sum of money and they are seeking sponsors for their teams. If you are in a position to assist our teams you can contact Mrs Cheryl Williams via the school office for details on how you can help. To show our appreciation of your support we would thank you and/or your business in our school newsletter which is distributed to over 800 families in Dalby and the surrounding districts and also on our Dalby State High School-Kokoda Challenge facebook page. The Dalby State High school's 2016 Kokoda challenge teams would like to thank you in advance for your support.

## Year 8 News

Hello again everyone. We have passed the half-way point of the term and I am so pleased with how the vast majority of the cohort have settled into the routine of school once again.

**Attendance** - Attendance levels are quite good – currently we are the strongest attending cohort in the junior school and it is pleasing to note the decrease in unexplained absences. Just a reminder, that if your student is absent, it is important that parents/caregivers contact the school via a phone call or note to explain absences. Rewards trips and activities are closely tied to attendance, so please ensure this process is followed.

**Assessment calendars** - Assessment calendars were posted on the school's website recently as well as being emailed to all students. I am aware that a lot of students do not access their emails at school, so during HWB on Monday, all students were given a copy of the calendar to glue into their diaries. Please take the time to sit with your student and go through assessment dates. Be aware that assessment for ALL year 8 subjects is listed, not just for the subjects your student is currently doing. It would be advisable to have your student's timetable beside them while they are checking their assessment calendars. If you have any questions or queries about the calendar, please contact me.

Sarah Hemmings  
Year 8 Coordinator  
[Shemm1@eq.edu.au](mailto:Shemm1@eq.edu.au)

## YEAR 9 NEWS

We don't do things by halves, my cohort! We've only been back at school 5 weeks and already we have:

- Participated and excelled at the swimming carnival (Jake Newland – 2 records, Healy Beresford – 1 record, P&C Encouragement Awards – Gabby Parker and Jake Newland)
- Competed at State Triathlon Championships – Jake Newland
- Competed at Inner Downs trials – Camryn Marini (2), Kaylee Fermor (2), Kate Saxelby, Jazmin Short (2), Kristian Bond, William Fitzsimmons, Daelan Rolls, Kahlee Bolam, Max Boshammer, Emma Hutchings, Lytana King-Togia, Ella Langton, Hayden Maunder, Rebecca McCready, Jake Newland, Gabby Parker, Cody Priestler, Laney Schloss, Brayden Tate, Lucy Wilkie-Boulus
- Been selected in DD teams – Camryn Marini (U15 Touch), Trent Cuzens and Jake Newland (Swimming)
- Presented badges to our Junior Leaders (Healy Beresford, Jenaya Low, Rebecca McCready and Luke Scott)
- Recognised 89 students for their academic achievement, behaviour and attendance for Semester Two 2015
- Auditioned for the school musical
- Trialled and been selected in our All Schools touch teams – Kate Saxelby, Camryn Marini, Jazmin Short, Kaylee Fermor, Ella Langton, Rosie Ebbage, Kristian Bond, Daelan Rolls, Blake Suhr, Lytana King-Togia, Josh Chappell, Malcolm Farrell and Tom McLaren

To say I am proud of my cohort is an understatement. Please keep encouraging your child to make positive choices around being committed 100% to their education and not just in the classroom. Being involved in extra-curricular activities helps develop maturity, independence and responsibility. These traits will benefit your child throughout their schooling and beyond.

On a not so positive note, there have already been multiple suspensions of Year 9s. Students need to be reminded that our school's expectations of Respect, Safety and Learning are of utmost importance and breaches of these will be dealt with swiftly and severely.

As usual, if you or your student have any queries or questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at school on 46 690 900 or via email at [kmari1@eq.edu.au](mailto:kmari1@eq.edu.au)

Karen Marini  
Year 9 Coordinator

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### Football Fun with Brisbane Roar Coaches!

Brisbane Roar Clinics Thursday 24th March  
Mini Roos (5-11 years) – 4.15-7.30pm - \$50  
12-15 years – 4.45-6.30pm - \$20

Register at [www.roaractive.com.au](http://www.roaractive.com.au) - under Holiday Programs.. Contact Justine 0427075893 for more info  
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### Registration for the Junior soccer season is now open

Ages 5 - 16 years. \$120 - \$130 for the season.

Register online at [www.myfootballclub.com.au](http://www.myfootballclub.com.au) this must be done by 12th March so teams can be organised.  
Games start 23rd April . Contact Jen 0428 777 967.  
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### Mainly Music program

Each Friday 9:30am - 11am during School term. Dalby Uniting Church. \$5 per family per session. For parents and young children. Babies to pre-Prep. For more information phone 4662 2306 or email [dalbyuniting@gmail.com](mailto:dalbyuniting@gmail.com) or [www.mainlymusic.org.au](http://www.mainlymusic.org.au)  
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### Dalby Motocross Club Membership Sign On Practice Day

Sunday 6th March. Gates open 7.30am Riding from 8am - 3 to 4pm. Two tracks - learners track and larger track used in intervals to rotate different skill levels.

Membership - \$60 seniors, \$50 juniors and \$80 family. \$20 to ride for everyone who signs up that day plus receive free club polo shirt with membership or extra \$10 for club hoodie. Fully stocked canteen.  
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### PCYC Youth Classes

Monday and Wednesday 4pm. \$5 per session plus \$20 annual PCYC Membership. Classes run for approx 45 mins. Phone Dalby PCYC 4672 2400 or email [dalbygym@pcyc.org.au](mailto:dalbygym@pcyc.org.au) for more information.

## Tutoring in the Support Space

Tutoring is on every morning in the Support Space from 8 am until 9 am. Bring your homework, revision sheets, assignments or just yourself! Students can also help themselves to a Milo or breakfast snack. All year levels and ability levels are welcome.

Monday—General  
Tuesday—Maths  
Wednesday—General  
Thursday—Science  
Friday—English

## Talented Singer Makes it to Sydney

In January, talented Dalby State High School Year 11 student, Clara Rudd, was accepted to attend a residential camp for two weeks at Macquarie University, NSW. She was one of just a few singers selected from Queensland to join in workshops with other students throughout Australia to form a choir with the prestigious organisation, Gondwana Choirs. Clara took part in daily, rigorous rehearsals working with some of Australia's leading choral conductors. This involved learning parts for repertoire that was performed in French, Finnish, Norwegian and English.

Clara says, "Those two weeks were an amazing experience. I learnt so much that will benefit my future music studies and formed friendships that will last a lifetime."

Clara will now have the opportunity to sing nationally and internationally over the next two years.

## Year 12 News

Well done to the Year 12 students who sat the practice QCS tests over three days in week four. Each day included a half-day session which examined each task and discussed the skills and techniques for responding to the test. In the second half of the day, students sat a test from the 2014 QCS tests. Feedback from the staff administering the tests was extremely positive and the students are commended for their mature approach to and hard work during these three days. The tests have been submitted to Mighty Minds for marking and students will receive the results later in the semester. Further information about the QCS test is available at [www.qcaa.qld.edu.au](http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au). Having entered our first period of assessment for 2016, it is essential that students consider their time management strategies. I spoke to the students last year about the importance of setting up a schedule that allows them to keep a track of their assessment, school work, employment and social outings. In their final year, I again advise them to organise a weekly planner to help stay on top of their workload. In addition to this, it is vitally important that every student recognises the importance of their attendance at school each and every day. Please encourage your student to consider their time management and continue to encourage your students to come to school in order to maximise their potential for success.

Finally I would like to wish the best of luck to Nicolas Dunlop, Jashneel Datt, Dannielle Prowse, Renee Williams, Madeleine Jones and Lucas Jones as they represent the school in the 2016 Lions Youth of the Year competition on the 6th of March. The competition involves an interview of between 30-45 minutes which encompasses their experience as leaders and community members, a prepared speech and an impromptu speech. This is a fantastic opportunity for these students and I know they will do DSHS proud.

If you have any queries, comments or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me here at school on (07) 4669 0900 or via email [hhult1@eq.edu.au](mailto:hhult1@eq.edu.au).

Heath Hultgren  
Year 12 Coordinator

## Year 11 News

Wow! We are already half way through the first term! The year is going unbelievably fast and I can imagine the Year 11s have accessed their assessment calendars, have their study timetables organised and have their heads down, working hard. After many timetable and subject changes during the first few weeks, I hope they are all settled and enjoying their second-last year of their high schooling lives!

The school had their Senior Award Ceremony on Monday the 22nd of February. It was fantastic to see so many students being recognised for the enormous efforts they continually make at school. We had 100 of our Year 11s receive at least one award which is absolutely great!

Our annual Maroon Outdoor Educational Centre camp is creeping up quickly- it is in Week 1 of Term 2. This means all medical and consent forms need to be returned to myself or the office as soon as possible. I have the forms in my staffroom if your student has misplaced/not yet received one.

Please don't hesitate to call me at school (07) 4669 0900 or send me an email [tehol0@eq.edu.au](mailto:tehol0@eq.edu.au).

Tess Holcombe  
Year 11 Coordinator

## P&C NEWS

Following a successful Annual General Meeting on Tuesday evening, the P&C is very pleased to announce the following office bearers -

President - Penny De Waele

Vice Presidents - Janet Ash, Karen Marini, Colleen Rasmussen

Secretary - Natalie Healy

Treasurer - Melissa Low, Adrian Rasmussen

Congratulations and we trust you will enjoy your time on the Committee.

Janice Berting, one of our long-standing Tuckshop Convenors has resigned. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Janice for her many years of service to the P&C and School community. While we miss Janice and her expertise, we wish her well for the future.

The Tuckshop is always looking for volunteers so if you can spare even an hour a month, it would be greatly appreciated. If you can assist, please contact the School office.

The P&C is very keen to find a Hall Canteen Convenor to run the Hall Canteen during such events as our upcoming Musical, the Dalby Eisteddfod and other events held at the Great Hall during the year. The Hall Canteen Convenor will be assisted by a band of volunteers during this time so the position will include coordinating volunteers, maintaining and checking stock levels etc. Profits from the Hall Canteen assist the P&C to fund improvements around the school. If you are able to volunteer for this position, please contact the school office.

As the next scheduled P&C meeting falls during the April school holidays, a special meeting will be held on **Tuesday 12th April at 5.30pm** primarily to discuss the uniform policy. Parents and community members who want to contribute to this discussion are most welcome to attend. The next General Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 3rd May at 5.30pm** in the Common Room under D Block. All are welcome.

## Instrumental Music News

- Invoices have been issued and fees are now due. Please pay at the school office ASAP if you have not already done so.
- Market Day next Tuesday, 8 March at 4.30pm outside Great Hall. This is an opportunity to buy or sell any second hand band polo shirts or formal black band shirts.
- No lessons or Band rehearsals in week 8, 15 and 17 March, as both Instrumental teachers are at District Music Camp.
- Any queries do not hesitate to contact either Mrs Summerville, Mr McPherson or Mrs Routley (HOD Arts) at school.

Date	Performance	Concert Band	Stage Band
15-17 March	District Secondary Music Camp (selected students)	No	No
Friday 15 April	Dalby Show	Yes	Yes
Wed 18 May	Fanfare (Black Band shirt required - in Toowoomba)	Yes	Yes
1-5 August	Instrumental Eisteddfod	Yes	Yes

## Dalby State High School P & C Resource Scheme Outlet

To ensure that your student has the books, classroom materials and sports activities for their study areas in 2016, join the Resource Scheme. The fees for 2016 are \$240 for Years 7, 8 and 9 students and \$260 for Years 10, 11 and 12.

The Resource Scheme includes much more than just textbooks - for example consumables, photocopying, software licences and subscriptions, cooking and sewing consumables, manual arts materials, access to sporting facilities such as the PCYC, tennis courts and swimming pool fees, transport costs for buses etc. Therefore the Student Resource Scheme represents excellent value for money.

A Security Bond of \$50 is required for each student and rolls over each year. Any queries please phone 4669 0953 or email [dalbyhighpandc@bigpond.com](mailto:dalbyhighpandc@bigpond.com).

Pay cash, credit card or cheque. Eftpos is available. Centrepay now available.

Layby of uniforms is welcome.

**Lockers** are also available for hire through the Resource Centre for \$40 per annum (cash or cheque only). A Locker Agreement Form must be signed by student and parent prior to hire.

## NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be conducted on May 10th - 12th for students in Years 7 and Year 9. These tests provide valuable information about how your child is performing in Literacy and Numeracy. If your child has grounds for exemption or you wish to withdraw your child, please contact the school for the appropriate form.

## QCS Test

The QCS Test contributes information for the calculation of Overall Positions (OPs) and Field Positions (FPs), which are used to select students for tertiary entrance. Year 12 students who plan on sitting the Qld Core Skills Test on Tuesday August 30 and Wednesday 31 August have recently sat a practice test. It was encouraging to see the Year 12 students take the practice test extremely seriously and complete set tasks to the best of their ability. Special thanks to Mrs Narissa Jones for her hard work organising the practice tests.

Students who are eligible to sit the test but wish to withdraw are required to provide a note to Administration as soon as possible.

In the next few weeks students will be given information about applying for Special Provision for the QCS test. It is acknowledged that some students are affected by a medical condition, an impairment, or exceptional circumstances that may act as a barrier to their access to the test or to their demonstration of their achievement in the test. The school, along with QCAA, attempt to minimise such barriers by making special provision available. We encourage parents/caregivers to contact the school with enquiries around special provision. Applications for Long Term impairments are due, with required supporting evidence, in late May. For more details about Special Provision see <https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/qcs-test/special-provision>

## Sports News

**Darling Downs 13-19 years Cluster 1 Trials** - The school sent a large number of students to the Darling Downs Cluster 1 trials in Toowoomba on the 16<sup>th</sup> February. Students trialed for Tennis, Touch, Volleyball and Cricket teams to attempt selection in Darling Downs teams.

Students who were successfully selected in Darling Downs teams were:

- Lewis Boyd Under 18 Touch
- Camryn Marini & Karla Sankey Under 15 Touch
- Mark Burt Under 19 Cricket

**Inner Downs 13-19 years Cluster 2 Trials** - On Monday 22 February over 60 students attended the Inner Downs Cluster 2 trials for Basketball, Football, Rugby League, Netball and Squash. Students who are selected will go to the Darling Downs trials in Toowoomba on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Sports that go direct to these trials are Girls U16 AFL and Boys U15 AFL. Students are reminded to bring the completed consent form with them to the trials. If the trials are postponed the information will be on the DD School Sport Website [www.ddschoolsport.eq.edu.au](http://www.ddschoolsport.eq.edu.au).

**Bunya District 10-12 years Swimming Carnival** - On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February Ella Wockner and Christina Stritzel from year 7 attended the Bunya District 10-12 years swimming carnival. This was a chance for the girls to qualify for the Darling Downs trials held at Gatton Aquatic Centre on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Both girls were successful in qualifying for the Bunya District team after producing some quality swims. Highlights are:

- Christina Stritzel 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 12 years 50m backstroke
- Christina Stritzel 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 12 years 50m freestyle
- Ella Wockner 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 12 years 50m backstroke
- Ella Wockner 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 12 years 50m freestyle

Both girls swam at Gatton Aquatic Centre this week at the Darling Downs trials.

**Darling Downs 13-19 years Swimming Carnival** - Last Tuesday 8 swimmers attended the Darling Downs 13 to 19 years Swimming Carnival in Gatton. These students were Mitchell Hemmings, Trent Cuzens, Callum Caruso, Jake Newland, Jake Rynne, Kayla Lawrie, Danielle Leggett and Jessika Bliesner. Students were attempting to qualify for the Darling Downs team to swim at the state championships at Chandler from the 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> March. Some of the more significant results were:

- Kayla Lawrie 5<sup>th</sup> in the 15-16 years 100m breaststroke
- Trent Cuzens 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 14 years 50m backstroke
- Jake Newland 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 15 years 50m backstroke
- Mitchell Hemmings 5<sup>th</sup> in the 14 years 50m backstroke
- Jake Rynne 5<sup>th</sup> in the 13 years 50m backstroke
- Jessika Bliesner 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 13 years 50m backstroke
- Jessika Bliesner 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 13 years 50m butterfly
- Mitchell Hemmings 1<sup>st</sup> in the 14 years 50m butterfly

- Kayla Lawrie 5<sup>th</sup> in the 15-16 yrs 200m individual medley
- Mitchell Hemmings 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 13--14 yrs 100m freestyle
- Jake Rynne 4<sup>th</sup> in the 13 yrs 50m breaststroke
- Kayla Lawrie 4<sup>th</sup> in the 15 yrs 50m breaststroke
- Jessika Bliesner 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 13 yrs 50m freestyle
- Mitchell Hemmings 1<sup>st</sup> in the 14 yrs 50m freestyle
- Jake Newland 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 13-14 yrs 100m backstroke

Congratulations to Jessika, Trent, Mitchell and Jake N who swam qualifying times and will now represent Darling Downs at the state championships.

**HPE Week** - This week is ACHPER HPE Week and the HPE staff along with the House Captains have organised activities to be conducted every day at lunchtime. Activities are:

Monday – Off side Touch, Tuesday – Court Equipment relay, Wednesday – Cricket, Thursday – Ulimite Disc, Friday – Staff v Students Soccer

**Laura Geitz Netball** - Last Sunday Mrs Blyton took the school Laura Geitz Netball to Toowoomba to take part in the Laura Geitz Shield. Thank you Mrs Blyton for giving up your time to coach the team.

**State Triathlon** - From the 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> February Billy O'Mealley and Jake Newland were part of the Darling Downs Triathlon team that participated in the State Championships at Hervey Bay. Both boys performed well given the hot, humid conditions that weekend.

**State Water Polo Championships** - Good luck Chloe Beresford who heads off next week with the Darling Downs Girls Water Polo team. Chloe has been training since the end of last year and will play at the State Championships in Toowoomba.

**Bunya District 10-12 years Trials** - The Under 12 sporting trials have starting happening this week with trials occurring for Basketball, AFL and Tennis. Students are reminded to listen to assembly and notices and to sign up on the PE noticeboard if they are wishing to trial. They will then receive a permission form that must be returned to the school office with the \$2 nomination fee.

Upcoming trials before the holidays include Rugby League, Netball and Cricket.

### Upcoming events

- 6<sup>th</sup> March Dalby Triathlon [www.dalbytrisports.com](http://www.dalbytrisports.com)
- 8<sup>th</sup> March 13-19 years Darling Downs Cluster 2 Trials
- 13<sup>th</sup> March Glennie Aquathon ph 0427 802 448
- 15<sup>th</sup> March 13-19 years Darling Downs Cluster 3 Trials

- 15<sup>th</sup> March U12 Bunya District Rugby League Trials 3 - 4pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> March U12 Bunya District Netball Trials 4.30pm - 5:30pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> March U12 Bunya District Cricket Trials 3.30pm - 5pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> April School Cross Country

## Laura Geitz Netball

The annual Laura Geitz Netball Carnival was held at St Mary's College in Toowoomba on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February. It was great to see a lot of interest from junior netballers with 30 girls trialling for the team. Nine girls were picked to represent Dalby State High School: Kaylee Fermor, Emma Hutchings, Laney Schloss, Gabby Parker, Karla Sankey, Anna Willcocks, Lucy Wilkie-Boulous, Kasey Draper and Leena Keene. Unfortunately, Karla had to pull out due to an injury. Luckily Chelsea Lockhart stepped up to fill in at last minute. Thank you Chelsea!

DSHS was placed in Division 1 and the girls were worried after only training together for a few weeks. Despite this, the girls convincingly won 2 of their 4 pool games, coming 3<sup>rd</sup> in their pool. They weren't so lucky in the playoffs, with Leena and Kasey coming off due to injury. However, the girls played extremely well, showing some tough competition like Fairholme and St Ursula's that our DSHS team was a force to be reckoned with.

The day ended with meeting Laura Geitz herself, which the girls very much enjoyed. Congratulations to all girls, you represented Dalby State High School superbly and made your coach very proud. Thank you very much to the parents who were able to transport and support the girls. Special mention must go to Mrs Fermor, Mrs Hutchings and Mrs Lockhart for their assistance with scoring.

Mrs Elise Blyton  
Junior Netball Coach

## Is your child having difficulty getting started on Assignments?

### Pre-writing activities

One scientifically based best practice for helping students acquire information to write about is prewriting activities. Students locate information through brainstorming and reading. They may also use a graphic organizer to help them structure this information e.g. web diagram.

Another means for acquiring possible writing content is through inquiry. Students set a specified goal for the writing task (this may be already defined by their assignment task sheet); they analyse data or research information (may be complete a research journal); and then apply what they have learned to writing.

Teachers will be teaching (or re-teaching in most cases) the genre (type of text) that will be required for their assessment. They will model this process; show examples and exemplars (good models of writing) of that

type of text; have students practice writing in groups and then finally have a go on their own.

You can further help your student focus on good writing by reminding them to use the exemplars given by the teachers to structure their writing. BUT not to copy the content – this is plagiarism.

Possible questions to use to prompt your child in their writing:

Think about the topic:

- What do you already know?
- Why are you writing this? Or What is the purpose of the text?
- Who am I writing it for? Or Who is the audience for the text?
- What are some of the ideas I could include in my writing?
- What do I need to find out to go ahead in my assessment/writing task?

*Rhianna Commens  
Master Teacher*

## Positive Behaviour for Learning at Dalby State High School

### Follow the uniform policy and Follow mobile phone and anti-bullying policies.

In order for a school to work, each student needs to follow the school's policies. With the introduction of PBL, students have been participating in lessons surrounding the policies and procedures we have in place at Dalby State High School to ensure each and every student is learning to their maximum potential.

Students at DSHS are reminded about the uniform policy on a daily and weekly basis. They are reminded daily by their teachers and they know that when they are not wearing the correct uniform, they are required to carry a pass with them at all times. If they do not have a legitimate reason for that uniform breach, they will receive a lunch-time detention. We are very proud of our school and we are very proud of our students and we want them to look their best. There is a direct correlation between student outcomes and the amount of respect that they have for their school and subsequently; their own education. A visible sign of respect is correct uniform. Students are reminded about the uniform policy by their Year Coordinators, the Heads of Department, the Deputy Principals and the Principal. Some students might not think the way that they dress is a very important part of their education, but they are very wrong. A study by the University of Houston, "Dressed for Success: Do School Uniforms Improve Student Behaviour, Attendance and Achievement?" suggests that 'school uniforms can have an impact on students' grades, attendance and behaviour. This data is taken from 160 schools in a large urban district.' After 8 years teaching at this school I can honestly say that I have seen a remarkable improvement in the respect that students at DSHS have for their school and I have no doubt that this is because of the uniform policy. I especially love formal Mondays because my students all look so sharp and ready to learn! If you are looking for a reminder you can find the Dalby State High School Uniform Dress Code here: <https://dalbyshs.eq.edu.au/Supportandresources/Formsanddocuments/Documents/dress-code-2016.pdf>

Our electronic devices policy is equally as important as the uniform policy. We all know that mobile phones and other electronic devices are a part of modern day society but we also know that electronic devices are addictive for many young people. At school, phones can cause a lot of trouble. Phones have access to a myriad of interesting distractions for students. This is why teachers rarely let mobile phones into their classrooms. Students who are caught doing the wrong thing with their electronic devices will receive consequences. If in doubt- students can leave them at home, log them into the school office, put them in their bags or keep them on silent in their pockets. You can find the Electronic Devices Policy here: <https://dalbyshs.eq.edu.au/Supportandresources/Formsanddocuments/Documents/dalby-state-high-school-electronic-device-policy.pdf>

Our last policy is our anti-bullying policy. At Dalby State High School, we take all accounts of bullying very seriously. The anti-bullying policy can be found in the school's responsible behaviour plan on the school's website. All bullying must be reported to a member of staff.

Be prepared for class, see teachers to catch up on work missed/study and know your timetable.

The other aspects of PBL we have been learning about over the past few weeks are the skills of being prepared for class and getting to know your timetable. Most students would have spent time getting to know their timetable this term. It is very important that students get to know their timetables so that they come to school with the correct equipment. At school, it is imperative to be prepared for EVERY class. This means correct uniform, pens, books, textbooks and any other equipment that is needed for the lesson, must be brought in when the teacher allows the students to enter the classrooms at the beginning of the lesson. Another important part of being a successful learner at Dalby State High School is catching up on work missed due to absences. If students are absent, it is essential that a parent/guardian contacts the school to let us know the reason why they are absent. Equally important is for the student to see their teachers from the classes they have missed to ensure that they don't fall behind.

That's all from the PBL team this newsletter. If you have any questions about PBL or about what your child is learning about in Pastoral Care or Health and Well-being, please don't hesitate to contact myself, the Year Coordinator or the PC/ HWB teacher.

*Alicia Edwards  
PBL Team Leader*

## TRADE TRAINING BOOST

Since the inception of the Trade Training Program, White Industries has been a great supporter of ours, providing mentoring, bursaries and technical support. This year, White Industries has increased its already generous support by donating PPE's and plant equipment to the value of \$10 000. In 2016, all Year 11 Trade Training students have been provided with a personal Welding kit / PPE kit and soon a Pipe and Section roller will take pride of place within the TTC.

This donation has increased the safety of our students while also providing a more professional 'look' to our students when out in our community. The plant machinery gives our students further access to industry standard equipment which translates into more effective future trades for our young men and women.

The whole Dalby SHS community thanks White Industries for their ongoing generous support!

## CHAPPY CHAT

Looking for an exciting camp opportunity over the Easter School holidays break... Southern Splashout is a camp for high-school aged students at CYC Burleigh from the 4th to 8th April. The camp will include lots of fun beach activities such as surfing, bodyboarding, stand up paddle boarding, canoeing and a trip to Movie World. \$285 for the week includes everything, transport, meals, accommodation, day trip to Movie World. You will also learn more about the God who created us all. Register online at [sucamps.org.au](http://sucamps.org.au) or call Chappy Cassie at the school on 4669 0900. It's going to be an awesome week!

**Project X Art Work** - September last year there was a youth event held in Dalby 'Project X' that many students from the school went to. I was part of the team that made this youth event happen and we were able to get James Alley and an assistant from Metagraphics in Brisbane to come out. These guys did a street art design on a canvas, working alongside and teaching people some skills - some of which were students from Dalby State High School. This art work has now been hung up at school on the end of the Art block... thanks Troy Law for making this happen. It is a great reminder of Project X Dalby, and the thought-provoking question that we all ponder from time to time, 'Why do you exist?'

*Cassie Walton*

## ROBOTICS CLUB

One of our enthusiastic year 10 students has started a robotics club. The students meet in the Support Space under b-block at the following times:

- Tuesday from 8 am – 9 am
- Wednesday lunch
- Thursday lunch
- Friday lunch

This aim this term is to get used to building the robots and programming them. There will be challenges set by the senior students including obstacle courses, tug-of-war and RoboSumo.

Students from all year levels are welcome and do not need to come to every available session.

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