Habit of Mind
Striving for success without hard work is like trying to harvest where you haven’t planted.

David Bly

Important August Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28—29</td>
<td>Regional Athletics Day 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>8AM—3PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THUR 29</td>
<td>Band &amp; Performance Day</td>
<td>8.30AM—7PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THUR 29</td>
<td>OZCARE Mens Homeless Hostel Visit</td>
<td>4PM—7.30PM</td>
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Important September Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03—04</td>
<td>QCS Test Year 12 Students</td>
<td>8.45AM—2.45PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRI 06</td>
<td>Year 6/7 Experience Day—EPSS</td>
<td>8AM—3PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUE 10</td>
<td>School Leavers Event—Mt Maria</td>
<td>8.45AM—2.45PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>WED 11</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Interviews</td>
<td>3PM—6PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>THUR 12</td>
<td>Year 5 Experience Day (MSS, GSS, EPSS)</td>
<td>8.30AM—3PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>THUR 12</td>
<td>OZCARE Mens Homeless Hostel Visit</td>
<td>4PM—7.30PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRI 13</td>
<td>Chaplaincy Talent Quest—School Hall</td>
<td>7PM—9.30PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAT 14</td>
<td>Community BBQ—Woolworths, Brookside</td>
<td>9AM</td>
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Important Time for our Year 12 students: QLD Core Skills Test next week
The QCS test is two days long and consists of four papers: a writing task, two multiple choice papers and a short response test. The results are reported on individuals using an A to E scale, but otherwise the results are only used to ensure fair positioning of groups of students, both among schools and among subjects. In a way, you can consider the QCS test as the checking process used to make sure that OPs are fair across Queensland. For this reason, we say to students that it is important to be well prepared and to do their best, as we would expect to have very high results to match the work they have done in class.

Reporting Mail-out and Parent/Teacher Interviews
Term 3 subject reports for all students will be mailed home to families this week. The mail out also contains important information about how to book a Parent/Teacher interview with your child’s teachers. It is my expectation that, because all students in the school can improve their results, all students need to have an interview with each of their teachers in order to develop improvement strategies so their results are the best they can be. I look forward to meeting parents and families on the afternoon and evening of Wednesday 11 September during the parent/teacher interview process.

Staffing Update
I need to advise the school community that Mrs Heather Blake, Deputy Principal for Junior Secondary (Year 8 &9) is taking leave for the last three weeks of the term. Mrs Tracey Ah Boo has kindly accepted the offer of Acting Deputy Principal for those three weeks. If you are a parent of a Year 8 or 9 student and have any issues at that level, please direct all inquiries to Tracey during the last three weeks of this term.

Academic Achievement
Does your child know where they are academically positioned in relation to all of the other students in their class? This is a critical component to improving results. Students need to know where they are positioned and have discussions with their teachers about how to improve their position. Competition with ones’ self can be an extremely powerful intrinsic motivator for students to improve their academic results. As the 10s move into Year 11 and then onto Year 12 this concept becomes even more powerful. If we want this cohort to exit with strong Overall Positions (OPs) every student needs to play their part by ensuring they are performing well in all of the subjects they are studying. At the upcoming Parent/Teacher Interviews encourage your child to ask their teacher about where they are positioned in their class and what they need to do to position themselves better by the end of the year.

Best wishes,
John Searle—Principal
Email: jsear13@eq.edu.au
The Education Act requires that children of school age (till sixteen years) are required to be in full-time attendance at a government or registered non-government school unless formally exempt. Our school requires that post-compulsory aged students also attend school unless a valid reason exists.

Implementation

- All enrolled students are required to attend school unless reasonable and valid grounds exist for them to be absent.
- Parents have a responsibility to ensure that their children attend school regularly, and are only absent if ill or if absolutely necessary. Parents have a further responsibility to provide a written note or phone message or text message to the school explaining why an absence has occurred.
- Parents of students who are to be absent are required to telephone the school before 9:00am to report the absence.
- Parents can provide a designated mobile phone number for the purpose of communications about absences. Text messages (about absences) are sent twice daily.
- Formal roll marking occurs every lesson. Students are responsible for their presence in class at all times. All student absences are recorded, each lesson by teachers, as a formal record of attendance. Late arrival or early departure is to be reported at the main office to ensure accuracy of roll marking. Failure to do so will result in a text message reporting absence.
- A staff member will be responsible for monitoring and investigating student absences.
- The designated staff member will text message parents of absent students if communication from parents is not forthcoming on the day of absence.
- Independent students not living with parents or caregivers are also required to provide notes.
- Students who aggregate more than four unexplained absences, will need to show cause as to why credit should be given for that semester/unit of study.
- Ongoing unexplained absences, or lack of cooperation regarding student attendance, will result in a formal attendance conference being organised. Unresolved attendance issues of post-compulsory students may result in the cancellation of their enrolment.

Aims

To maximise student learning opportunities and performance by ensuring that children required to attend school do so regularly, and without unnecessary or frivolous absences.

Attendance Procedures

Student Absences

The school uses a twice-daily text message system to advise parents/caregivers of unexplained student absences. Student attendance is closely monitored; the school marks rolls electronically every single lesson. Parents are asked to provide a written note or phone the student absentee line on Ph: 3550 1160 to explain absences. (Medical and dental appointments should be made, where possible, outside normal school hours.)

Students Arriving Late/Leaving Early

- Students may enter the school grounds after 8:00am (excluding Band students and students reporting for other organised activities). The school cannot accept responsibility for students who enter the grounds before 8.00am each day since it is unlikely that teachers are present to render first aid in case of accidents.
- Students arriving late to school must first report to the Office with a note/phone call from home to collect a Late Slip before going to classes.
- Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds without a note/phone call from parent/guardian. In order for students to leave the school grounds it is important that a parent/guardian contact the school office rather than contacting the student as students should not be using mobile phones during class time. If a student is unwell they should report to the sickbay following school procedures.
- Students who need to leave the grounds must bring a parental note.
- Students must present this note to the main office to obtain a leave pass.

Heather Blake
Deputy Principal
Email: hblak2@eq.edu.au

Parent Contact Information

Reminder to Parents,
Over the past few weeks some parents would have received a highlighted document regarding missing information on your student’s profile. In order to maintain this information we ask if you could assist us by returning this information to the School as soon as possible.

Heather Blake
Deputy Principal
Email: hblak2@eq.edu.au
> District Athletics

On Tuesday 7 and Wednesday 8 August, fifty Mitchie students travelled to UQ Athletics Centre to compete in the district athletics carnival. Over the two days students ran, threw and jumped their way to a third place in the overall percentage standings.

As we are a small school we are unable to compete with the size of the larger schools in our district, but students should be commended on their efforts in placing third in the percentage standings. This takes into account the number of students at each school competing. The two days were also a success for those students who qualified to represent the school at the Metropolitan North Regional Trials held at the UQ Athletics Centre on the 28 and 29 August.


Mitch Fallon
Sports Coordinator
Email: mfall16@eq.edu.au

> All ATSI Students Interested in Apprenticeships

The Brisbane City Council will be advertising for upcoming apprentices in the following areas for 2014:

- 3 X Horticulture (Mt Coot-tha)
- 1 X Heavy Vehicle Mechanic (Toowong)
- 1 X Coach Builder (Toowong)
- 1 X Carpenter (Stafford)
- 1 X Plumber (Stafford)
- 1 X Electrician (Stafford)
- 1 X Painter (Stafford)

If you are interested, send an email to EquityDiversity@brisbane.qld.gov.au and ask to be put onto the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander email list. You will receive regular updates about various position coming up.

Kerry Smith
A/HOD Senior Schooling
Email: ksmit85@eq.edu.au

> Literacy Olympics

On 19 August Mitchelton State High School students participated in a school wide literacy competition at Wavell State High School. The two teams from Years 8 and 9 worked together to respond to questions relating to literacy, history, geography and the arts.

The Year 8 team consisted of three wonderful students- Sam B, Ernesto C and Julina F. In Year 9, Mitchelton was represented by the awesome trio- Tyrone H, Brianna R and Lachlan F. Both teams went into the event with enthusiasm and determination, demonstrating the Mitchelton spirit of participation.

The event was held in the Wavell State High School hall where our students faced 63 competing teams from Years 6-9. The hall was filled with competitive energy as each of the teams worked with enthusiasm. The atmosphere was amazing!

I would like to send a special thank you to the six students who participated in the event. Your willingness to challenge yourself, persist and take responsible risks was truly admirable. I look forward to seeing another group of students step up to the challenge next year.

Shelley Bampton
Acting HOD English and The Arts
Email: sbampton@eq.edu.au

> Homework Club

Need help doing your homework? Every Tuesday afternoon from 2.45pm in S block, university students are available to tutor and assist students. Afternoon tea provided—all welcome! We also have UQ volunteers assisting students throughout the school this term.

Heather Blake
Deputy Principal
Email: hblaker@eq.edu.au

> Last Chance to Contribute to The Queensland Plan

If you’ve thought about the opportunities and careers you would like your kids to have in the future but haven’t responded to The Queensland Plan yet, this week is your last chance.

Thinking about where you want our community to be in 30 years time can be a fun challenge. Our students will be in the workforce and some of us will be retired but what do we hope Queensland will be like then?

Visit www.queenslandplan.qld.gov.au and answer one, some or all six questions by 30 August to share your views and help guide the state’s future.
On Saturday 14 September, Mitchelton State High School will be running a community BBQ to raise funds for St. Jude’s—a school in Tanzania founded by Australian of the Year Gemma Sisia. St. Jude’s seeks to provide quality education for the poorest children in Tanzania and Mitchelton State High School is partnering with them to see this happen.

**When:** 9am, 14 September  
**Where:** Bakery section, Woolworths Supermarket, Brookside

Please come and support our amazing students, our great school and this worthy cause.

Vikki Hamilton  
Maths Coordinator  
Email: vhami4@eq.edu.au

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Students interested in the Anzac tradition are encouraged to apply for the chance to visit Gallipoli, Belgium and France as part of Anzac Day 2014 commemorations. The Premier’s Anzac Prize 2014 covers students’ travel, accommodation, meals and insurance. The five winners from this year’s trip have posted photos, reports and a video covering their experiences visiting historical sites in Turkey and the Western Front which are available from:  

The student application pack, guidelines and criteria are also available from this site. Be sure to check the resources section which includes application tips.  

Student entries for the 2014 prize close on 20 September 2013, the anniversary of the 1917 Battle of Menin Road.

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Have you made your appointment to work through your student’s SETP? SETPs are being held until 6 September. Please ring the office to make an appointment on 3550 1100 or contact Kerry Smith on 3550 1131 if you have any questions.

Kerry Smith  
A/HOD Senior Schooling  
Email: ksmit85@eq.edu.au

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Thanks to CUA Community Care, Mitchelton State High School is eligible to be in the running to receive one of ten $5,000 grants from CUA to go towards some much needed fitness equipment which will give our students an opportunity to learn how to conduct group fitness sessions, how to utilise fitness equipment and also improve the overall health and wellbeing of both the students and the staff at our school.

All projects are voted on by the local community. Mitchelton State High School has entered our project submissions for this year’s Community Care program and are looking for your votes to help us.

**To vote, simply go to:**  
**click on ‘vote now’ and select Mitchelton State High School from the drop down menu.**

We appreciate your help and support.

Alana Torisi—Teacher  
Email: atorr20@eq.edu.au

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Year 12 students are now making decisions about TAFE and University for 2014. Applications for University and Diploma (and a few Certificate) courses at TAFE are made through QTAC (Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre). The QTAC booklets have been distributed to students and I would ask you to please speak with your child about this booklet. If he/she has not received the booklet they are available from my office.

**HOW ARE APPLICATIONS MADE?**  
The applications for courses are made through the QTAC website ([www qtac.edu.au](http://www qtac.edu.au)).

**WHEN ARE APPLICATIONS MADE?**  
On time applications close on 27 September, 2013 for courses starting in February/March 2014.

**WHAT IS THE COST?**  
BEFORE 27 September, the cost is $34. If students apply AFTER 27 September, the cost goes up to $108. I urge all students to apply before the end of Term 3.

**WHO CAN APPLY?**  
OP and non-OP students can apply through QTAC.

**APPOINTMENTS WITH THE GUIDANCE OFFICER**  
I am available to assist students with the applications. Please urge your child to make an appointment to see me. All parents are welcome to accompany their child to the GO appointments. I am available from 7 am on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Please email me to set up an appointment before school hours. (My email is pmatt5@eq.edu.au).

Peta Matthewman  
Guidance Counsellor  
Email: pmatt5@eq.edu.au
Community Information about Early Voting

The Federal Election has been called for 7 September 2013. By now you should have received information about how to vote if you cannot make it to a polling place on Election Day. If you have not received this information please contact Jane Prentice MP’s office on 3378 1599. You can vote in person at an early voting centre or any Australian Electoral Commission divisional office in the weeks leading up to the election. Early voting will be available from 20 August 2013. The Ryan electorate’s early voting centre is located at the Kenmore Uniting Church on Moggill Road. It will be open between 8.30am and 5.30pm on weekdays.

Live Well With Asthma

Are you or someone you care for living well with asthma? If you:
- wake up coughing, wheezing or breathless
- struggle to keep up with normal activity
- use your blue reliever puffer more than three times a week
- are unsure about the way your medications can work best for you

These are all signs your asthma is not well controlled or signs you are not living well with asthma. If your asthma is limiting your quality of life, Asthma Foundation Queensland invites you to join us for a free one hour Live Well with Asthma workshop. To register please call Asthma Assist on 1800 645 130 or visit [http://www.asthmafoundation.org.au/QLD/Courses_for_the_community.aspx](http://www.asthmafoundation.org.au/QLD/Courses_for_the_community.aspx)

Where: The Exchange, Blamey Street, Kelvin Grove Q 4059
When: Tuesday 3rd September 2013
Time: 11.00am – 12.00pm

National Animal Rescue Groups of Australia

Can you temporarily open your home and your heart to a pet in need? Are you looking for good company and a heart-rewarding experience? We won’t ask for a loan or to borrow the car! We won’t stay out late and worry you!

We are free, all our costs are covered we will offer you lots of cuddles and kisses. We will only ask for a warm safe home until we find our forever home. We would be forever thankful for your part in saving our lives. We come in all shapes and sizes and we make great company and really need your help. If you can help us please email our person narga.nfdc@gmail.com and she will send you some information. Thanks!

Together we will make a difference [www.narga.org.au](http://www.narga.org.au)

Community News

Valley District Cricket Club

Junior Sign-on days

Saturday 31 August & Sunday 1 September

2.00pm - 4.00pm

Ashgrove Sports Ground, Yoku Road Ashgrove

Full details of juniors registration fees, training and playing times can be found at [www.valleycricket.org.au](http://www.valleycricket.org.au) or email junior.registrar@valleycricket.org.au

North Brisbane Polo Bears

COME & TRY AUSTRALIA’S RAPIDLY GROWING OLYMPIC SPORT OF WATER POLO!!!

WHERE: ALBANY CREEK LEISURE CENTRE EXPLORER DRIVE ALBANY CREEK

DETAILS: If you are a competent swimmer and you are keen to train hard & play hard (and also have a lot of fun with new friends) – Polo Bears want you!
- Flippa Ball Program – Players born 2002 & younger
- Full Rules Competition U13s to Seniors – Players born 2001 & older

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST, PLEASE EMAIL KARILYN registrar@polobears.com.au

Live Well With Asthma

Are you or someone you care for living well with asthma? If you:
- wake up coughing, wheezing or breathless
- struggle to keep up with normal activity
- use your blue reliever puffer more than three times a week
- are unsure about the way your medications can work best for you

These are all signs your asthma is not well controlled or signs you are not living well with asthma. If your asthma is limiting your quality of life, Asthma Foundation Queensland invites you to join us for a free one hour Live Well with Asthma workshop. To register please call Asthma Assist on 1800 645 130 or visit [http://www.asthmafoundation.org.au/QLD/Courses_for_the_community.aspx](http://www.asthmafoundation.org.au/QLD/Courses_for_the_community.aspx)

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We are free, all our costs are covered we will offer you lots of cuddles and kisses. We will only ask for a warm safe home until we find our forever home. We would be forever thankful for your part in saving our lives. We come in all shapes and sizes and we make great company and really need your help. If you can help us please email our person narga.nfdc@gmail.com and she will send you some information. Thanks!

Together we will make a difference [www.narga.org.au](http://www.narga.org.au)

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AIR FORCE FLIGHT CAMP FOR GIRLS

Air Force is excited to offer girls the opportunity to experience Air Force aviation careers.

Dates: 23 – 26 Sep 13
Location: RAAF Base Amberley

What you will get to do:

• Enjoy some hands on flying experience, including mission briefings and flying an Air Force simulator.
• Have a look through Air Force aircraft.
• An opportunity to engage and ask questions of Air Force women pilot and aircrew.
• Experience Air Force life including living quarters, meals, training and some leadership activities.
• A chance to speak with Defence Force recruiting regarding all opportunities for Air Force employment.
• There may be an opportunity to fly in an Air Force aircraft.

What you need:

• Parental permission if you are under 18 years old.
• An Interest in Maths and Science related subjects.
• A willingness to extend yourself and experience things some people will never get to.
• An ability to commit to the full program.

How to apply:

At www.defence.gov.au/workexperience via the ‘Current Work Experience Placements’

Further contacts:

Defence Work Experience Coordinator
Mr Geoff Metcalfe
07 3233 4413 or QLD.WorkExperience.Program@defence.gov.au