



**2 April 2026**

## PRINCIPAL

As we come to the end of Term 1, I would like to thank our staff, students and families for a strong and settled start to the year at Centenary State High School. Our students have engaged well in learning, participated enthusiastically in school activities and contributed to the positive and respectful culture we value so highly.

One key focus this year – and an area where we greatly appreciate your partnership – is **school attendance**. While it may seem simple, attending school every day makes a powerful difference to both learning and wellbeing.

Every day at school counts. When students attend regularly, they experience:

- **Stronger academic progress** – Consistent attendance helps maintain the learning momentum needed for success across all subjects.

- **Improved confidence** – Being present each day helps students stay connected to their peers, teachers and routines.
- **Better long-term habits** – Regular attendance builds responsibility, resilience and commitment – skills that support future study, training and employment.
- **A sense of belonging** – Students who attend regularly feel more settled, supported and part of the school community.

Even small absences add up. Missing just one day a fortnight equates to four full weeks of learning lost in a year. If you are having difficulty with attendance, reach out to our Year Coordinators, Guidance Officers or Deputy Principals for your child's year level for support.

Centenary State High School has clear expectations that students attend every day they are well and able to do so. We know, however, that family circumstances, illness and unexpected events can occasionally make attendance challenging. When this happens, we are here to help.

I am proud of the positive start many of our students have made with their attendance this term. Currently our

attendance is up just over 1% on 2025. As we move into Term 2, I encourage every student to aim for their personal best attendance.

Thank you again for your support throughout Term 1. I wish all students and families a safe and restful break, and I look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for another successful term.

**Ross McNichol**

**Principal**

**Email: [admin@centenaryshs.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@centenaryshs.eq.edu.au)**

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in a First Nations Yugerra Language program during Wednesday afternoon STEP (Student Enrichment Program). The program was held in the First Nations Hub (HU07) and was facilitated by Aunty Rose who has an incredible wealth of knowledge and experience about First Nations history and culture and by some wonderful Inclusion teacher aides.



The program focussed on exposing students to the Yugerra language using a variety of mediums including Dreamtime stories, visual stimuli, song and dance. Students learnt words such as Jimbulang “Family, Nanni Dhargun “Country” and Nanni Ngin which “means see you later”.

## BUSINESS MANAGER

QParents is a free, secure online portal and mobile app for Queensland state school parents/carers to access and manage their student’s education information, including attendance, report cards, behavior, and invoices. Available 24/7, it allows parents/carers to update student details, provide digital consent and pay school fees.

We encourage all parents/carers to register for QParents!

**Karyn Lord, Business Manager**

**Email: [klord25@eq.edu.au](mailto:klord25@eq.edu.au)**



Over the past few weeks, the students have also been learning a dance, Gurrin Nigindin Nami (meaning “Here I Have Lived”). The students are looking forward to performing on Assembly for our school NAIDOC celebrations in Term 3.

## DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

*From Deborah McIntyre*



In Term 1, a group of Years 7, 8 and 9 students engaged

In preparation for the performance, students received plain clapping sticks which they primed, designed and painted using Yuggera language symbols. Each student’s design holds a significant meaning which is seen in their artwork.



On Monday March 31<sup>st</sup>, our First Nations students participated in a special event hosted by Aunty Rose Page to celebrate their attendance achievements and strengthen their cultural

connections.

Dr McIntyre led the group in a thoughtful discussion about the concept of Dadirri – a First Nations practice of deep listening, stillness and awareness. Students reflected on what mindful learning looks like in their own lives and how slowing down can help them connect with their learning, their culture and themselves.

The outdoor setting created the perfect space for meaningful conversation. Students yarned with Aunty Rose about family, culture and their personal connections to Country. These conversations encouraged students to share stories, ask questions and recognise the strength that comes from knowing about culture and connecting with others.

The celebration featured many smiles, strong connections and a shared appreciation for cultural knowledge and the importance of community. We thank Aunty Rose Page for her guidance, wisdom, and the warmth she brings to our school community.



*From Carly Manche and Brooke Davis*

Students at the school have plenty to be proud of this term, with Years 7 and 9 demonstrating strong effort and a positive approach across multiple areas.

Although NAPLAN results will not be released for some time, both year levels approached the assessments with focus, determination, and a commitment to doing their best. Teachers have praised students for their preparation and calm attitude throughout the testing period, noting the way they supported one another and took each challenge in their stride.

In addition to their efforts in the classroom, students have also been recognised for their excellent behaviour and outstanding attendance. Classrooms have been respectful,

engaged, and productive, helping to create an environment where everyone can thrive. High attendance rates reflect students' dedication to their learning and to being active members of the school community.

To celebrate the completion of NAPLAN, students enjoyed a well-earned sausage sizzle. Despite unexpected weather, the event was a success – especially for the Year 7 cohort, who showed resilience and good humour while dealing with a sudden thunderstorm. Rather than dampening the mood, the rain added excitement to the day, with students embracing the experience and making the most of the celebration.

Staff have commended both year levels not only for their effort, but for the way they consistently demonstrate respect, responsibility and school pride. With such a positive attitude and strong work ethic, Years 7 and 9 are well positioned for continued success.

On behalf of the Year 7 and Year 9 Deputy Principals, we would like to thank all staff involved as part of the amazing NAPLAN Administration team who helped prepare the spaces, the staff who were BBQing legends and all students and families for supporting this process.



*From Matt Smith and Amiee Nolan*

## **Belonging and Attendance at Centenary SHS**

### **The why**

At Centenary SHS, our Moral Purpose is to foster positive relationships and a strong sense of belonging so that all learners flourish. Strongly connected to the Moral Purpose is our school value of 'Belonging'. We know, and evidence-based research shows, that higher levels of school belonging is associated with higher levels of functioning. Furthermore, belonging is associated with lower mental health symptoms and is a long-term protective factor that can mitigate against stress, depression and anxiety later in young adulthood (1).

Since Deputy Principals Amiee Nolan and Matt Smith attended the *Thought Leader Series Masterclass: Belonging and Engagement* with Dr Doug Fisher and Dr Nancy Frey on Monday October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the school has been exploring the connection between belonging and attendance.

### The how

This term our focus has been on tracking, monitoring and responding to different school attendance patterns to help improve school belonging. Specifically, we are looking at the following:

- How our school values reflect high aspirations for attendance
- How we can share attendance data sets in the school community
- How we can have conversations with students about belonging and attendance

Research (2) shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance is associated, on average, with higher student achievement. Additionally, attending school every day helps children to build social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience. Absenteeism can impact significantly on students' learning and wellbeing.

### The what

Attending school each day gives students the opportunity to benefit from the teaching and learning programs that Centenary SHS offers all learners and feel a strong sense of belonging with our school (3; 4). Our school target for attendance in 2026 is 91% and we would like to congratulate the following groups for exceeding this target with exemplary attendance:

#### HG

HG	Attendance %
CU07A	97.43%
MO08A	96.35%
JA09B	95.37%
YA10C	95.89%

MO11C	95.08%
JA12B	95.97%

#### House Group

House Group	Attendance %
CURRAGUNDI	92.31%
JARUP	91.74%
MOOLANDA	93.02%
YALLAMBEE	92.34%

#### Year Level

Year Level	Attendance %
7	94.72%
8	92.26%
9	93.22%
10	91.88%
11	92.07%
12	90.56%

#### The 'what next'

We will have a continued focus on attendance and belonging this year and in each newsletter we will publish the highest attendance per Year Level HG, House Group and Year Level.

We also intend to work closely with families to ensure a sustained improvement to belonging and attendance.

We believe that the success of whole school wellbeing depends to a large degree on how it is communicated to, and supported by the parent body. We recognise that parents/carers play a critical role in the shared education of their young people. The connection between school and home is an important one with positive relationships serving as a conduit for the development and maintenance of student wellbeing.

Stay tuned for future messages about belonging and attendance and please reach out to Amiee Nolan and/or Matt Smith if you have any questions or would like to learn more about our school priorities with attendance and belonging.

about their performance in Term 1 and upcoming assessment for the remainder of the year. Our staff value the opportunity to be able to meet with you in this forum.

## References

- Allen, KA., Greenwood, C.J., Berger, E. *et al.* (2024). Adolescent School Belonging and Mental Health Outcomes in Young Adulthood: Findings from a Multi-wave Prospective Cohort Study. *School Mental Health* 16, 149–160
- Department of Education Queensland. (2026). For parents and the community. <https://education.qld.gov.au/initiatives-and-strategies/initiatives/every-day-counts/for-parents-and-community>
- Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation. (2025). Attendance Strategies. <https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/school-community/attendance-matters-resources-for-schools/attendance-strategies>
- Department of Education Queensland. (2026). Every Day Counts. <https://education.qld.gov.au/initiatives-and-strategies/initiatives/every-day-counts>

From Amiee Nolan

## Report Cards and Parent Teacher Interviews

Term 1 report cards will be emailed home in the first week of Term 2. This will be the final report card that we email home as we look to move to full integration of QParents during Term 2. QParents allows families to access report cards for their young person at all times, as well as providing historical report cards if required. If you need help to sign up to QParents, please use the attached document, come and visit our friendly office staff during business hours, or come along to Parent Teacher Night where our staff will be able to assist you.

Parent Teacher Night will be on Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm – 7:30pm in the Sports Hall. You will have the opportunity to reserve a timeslot to speak to your young person's Term 1 teachers. Information about how to book an interview timeslot will be communicated at the beginning of term. Parent Teacher Interviews are a fantastic opportunity to meet your young person's teacher, ask questions



### QParents can be used to:

- Provide consent to attend excursions
- Monitor attendance
- Access daily timetable
- View excursions/activities calendar
- Report a student absence
- View and pay invoices via BPoint
- View academic report cards
- View assessment dates and examination dates

### If you have not yet registered for QParents:

- Email [QParents@centenaryshs.eq.edu.au](mailto:QParents@centenaryshs.eq.edu.au) to request an invitation code.
- You can also register without a code by following the steps below. If you skip the code, you will be asked to complete additional ID verification for both yourself and your student.

### How to Set Up QParents:

- Go to the QParents login page - <https://qparents.qld.edu.au/#/login>
- Click **Create Account**.
- When prompted:
  - Enter your **invitation code** (if you have one), **OR**
  - Click **Skip Invitation Code**.
- Type the school's name and select it from the list.
- Read the **Privacy Statement**, then tick **Read and understood**.
- Read the **QPAO Terms and Conditions**, then tick **Accept Terms and Conditions**.
- Click **Next**.
- Enter your personal details  
(Make sure these match the details you provided to the school at enrolment.)
- Check your email, click the link provided, and upload **100 points of ID**.
- Add your student's information.  
*Note: The EQ ID Number is on your student's timetable, or you can contact the school.*
- Your registration will be sent to the QParents Administrator for approval.
- Once approved, you will receive a confirmation email granting access to your student's QParents account.

### 100 points of ID:

Australian Passport	50 Pts
Australian Drivers Licence	60 Pts
Medicare Card	40 Pts
Australian Birth Certificate	50 Pts
Australian Marriage Certificate	40 Pts
Australian Citizenship Certificate	50 Pts
Change of Name Certificate	40 Pts
Australian Visa (foreign passports)	40 Pts

If you only have 60-90 points of the above ID, you can still register. However, you will need to attend your school for a further check later.

**QParents**

Stay connected with your child's school.

This free and secure app allows you to:

- provide digital consent
- notify of absences including future absences
- manage your child's information
- view report cards, upcoming events and timetables
- pay invoices and view payment history
- receive school announcements

Learn more about QParents on our website

Download the free app

Android Apple

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[Click here to download the QParents instruction guide for parents](#)

**Deborah McIntyre, Deputy Principal (Inclusion, EALD)**

**Email: [dmcin49@eq.edu.au](mailto:dmcin49@eq.edu.au)**

**Carly Manche, Deputy Principal (Year 7)**

**Email: [ceman4@eq.edu.au](mailto:ceman4@eq.edu.au)**

**Matt Smith, Deputy Principal (Year 8)**

**Email: [rsmit925@eq.edu.au](mailto:rsmit925@eq.edu.au)**

**Brooke Davis, Deputy Principal (Year 9)**

**Email: [bldav0@eq.edu.au](mailto:bldav0@eq.edu.au)**

**Angela McKay, Deputy Principal (Year 10)**

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**Ange Raven, Deputy Principal (Year 11)**

**Email: [arave7@eq.edu.au](mailto:arave7@eq.edu.au)**

**Amiee Nolan, Deputy Principal (Year 12)**

**Email: [axnol0@eq.edu.au](mailto:axnol0@eq.edu.au)**

## CONNECTIONS

*From Chappie Paul*

As we step into the month of April, we recognise two major events that we celebrate every year that invite us to reflect on the power of sacrifice and its positive impact in our world.

The first is Easter, a celebration about new life. How one man's sacrifice changed the course of history in our world. He demonstrated that there was a better way to live and to treat each other, even though it meant he paid the ultimate sacrifice.

The second is ANZAC Day. This is a time to honour the service and sacrifice of our soldiers, many of whom gave their lives while standing alongside other nations to defend the freedoms we enjoy today. Their commitment is still inspiring current generations.

In our everyday lives, many of us sacrifice in small but meaningful ways, often without realising it. When we place the needs of others before our own, we contribute

to a stronger, more caring, and more resilient community. Let's never give up on doing good, the results in our community will be worth it.

Happy Easter holidays!

*From Nurse Sarah*

**The School Based Youth Health Nurse talks about...teen sleep!**

*National Sleep Awareness Month – March 2026*

Sleep Matters. Your teen is not trying to be difficult when they can't sleep. It's their changing biology and physiology that is the reason for their changed sleeping patterns.

Factors that can influence this include:

- Changes in circadian rhythm & their hormones
- Devices and screen time
- Emotional and mental health, behaviour and lifestyle

For more information, visit:

<https://parents.au.reachout.com/life-skills-and-challenges/sleep>

To make an appointment to see the nurse, students can:

Email: [nurse.centenary@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:nurse.centenary@health.qld.gov.au)

or students can self-refer via this link:

[Click here to view more information](#)

Visit Sarah, the School Based Youth Health Nurse on Mondays and Wednesdays, located in GS04 (upstairs off the veranda)

For more information about the School Based Youth Health Nurse service, visit: <https://bit.ly/chqSBYHN>

**Leanne McBrien, Guidance Officer**

**Email: [ljmcb0@eq.edu.au](mailto:ljmcb0@eq.edu.au)**

**Nicole Trembath, Guidance Officer**

**Email: [ntrem1@eq.edu.au](mailto:ntrem1@eq.edu.au)**

**Sandi Wright, Guidance Officer**

**Email: [swrig273@eq.edu.au](mailto:swrig273@eq.edu.au)**

**Zachery Edwards, School-Based Psychologist**  
**Triage through Guidance Officers**

**Sarah Kelly, School Nurse**  
**Email: [nurse.centenary@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:nurse.centenary@health.qld.gov.au)**

**Paul Stewart, School Chaplain**  
**Email: [pstew79@eq.edu.au](mailto:pstew79@eq.edu.au)**

## INTERNATIONAL

As expected, Term 1 2026 has been bustling with activity. We welcomed four new international students to our graduate and study abroad programs, as well as 20 students for a study tour from Japan.

Students from the Jinai Joshi High School Study Tour arrived at Centenary SHS on Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup> and were warmly welcomed by their homestay hosts. This visit continues a long-standing partnership between our schools, and everyone was excited to have the program back this year. During their stay, the students joined Science classes, reflecting Jinai Joshi's focus on STEM, and enjoyed excursions to universities, Mt Coot-tha, Lone Pine and the Moreton Bay Environmental Centre. They also took part in hands-on activities such as robotics, cooking, art, dance, sport and manual arts, making it a truly fantastic experience. The visit was especially memorable for our Year 10 buddies, with many forming friendships that will surely last well beyond the tour.

Homestay families reported positive experiences, noting that the students settled in quickly, communicated well, and embraced the opportunity to experience everyday life in an Australian household. Many homestay providers commented on the students' excellent manners, eagerness to learn and willingness to try new things – including local food, routines and exploring the local community. Overall, the tour created meaningful cultural exchange, strengthened relationships with hosting families and left both students and providers with memorable, enjoyable experiences. Feedback from all parties has been overwhelmingly positive and we look forward to welcoming future groups.

We recently held an International Student Assembly, led by our International Captains, where we recognised students

for 100% attendance and acknowledged those actively participating in school events such as the World's Greatest Shave and the Talent Show. We also celebrated March birthdays with cake and sweets. The assembly provided an opportunity to share upcoming events, travel reminders and highlight the support available from the International Team.

At the end of Term 1, we will farewell one of our study abroad students from Japan. We wish him all the best for the future and know how much he has enjoyed his Aussie experience with us.

The International Team wishes all our students, families, carers, and homestay hosts a safe and Happy Easter. We look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for Term 2.



**International Team**

**Email: [international@centenaryshs.eq.edu.au](mailto:international@centenaryshs.eq.edu.au)**

## SENIOR SCHOOL

Our Future Options Evening for 2026 is Wednesday May 13th!

We look forward to providing our Years 10 and 12 students and their parents/carers an opportunity to access many different industry providers, institutions and universities.

Years 10 and 12 parents/carers – keep an eye on your emails (junk inclusive) and on Facebook too over the coming weeks as we release more information.

## FUTURE OPTIONS EVENING



Future Options Evening is an opportunity for our Years 10 and 12 students to connect with universities, external providers and school-based apprenticeship/traineeship RTOs, while also providing exposure to providers.

**Wednesday**  
May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026

4:30pm - 8:00pm

Sports Hall (SRC)/Performing Arts Centre (CPAC)  
Centenary State High School  
1 Moolanda Street, Jindalee QLD 4074



**Julie Scull, Senior School HOD**

**Email: [jscul19@eq.edu.au](mailto:jscul19@eq.edu.au)**

## STUDENT FORUM

### International Women’s Day Leadership Workshop - Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup>

Our Years 10 and 11 student leaders: Christabel, Ziannah, Ruby, Khanh and Dilkash represented our school at the International Women’s Day workshop hosted by IBM and Crazy Ideas College (CIC).

Through the Lead4Impact model, students developed valuable leadership skills, building confidence, engagement and a sense of purpose (meaning). The day also sparked important conversations around accessibility and student wellbeing. As a result, our leaders are now working to promote the *Share the Dignity* vending machine, demonstrating respect and care for others in our community. A big thank you to Ms Clarke for taking the girls!



Check out more here:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1KtyPspVGd/>

### Pi Day – Friday March 13<sup>th</sup>

Pi Day (the Day of Maths) is March 14<sup>th</sup> (in the US the date reads 3.14 - which is the start of Pi!)

Pi Day at Centenary SHS was ran by our STEM Captains Nhi and Melissa and was a celebration of curiosity, creativity and mathematical enthusiasm. Students immersed themselves in a range of activities including chalk circle drawing, estimating the centre of a circle, building  $\pi$  paper chains and designing  $\pi$ -themed bookmarks.

A highlight of the day was the  $\pi$  reciting competition, where Jay (Year 12) achieved an incredible feat by reciting 66 digits of  $\pi$  - an outstanding example of achievement and engagement.

And of course, in true Pi Day tradition, students enjoyed pies to keep their minds fuelled!



### World’s Greatest Shave – Monday March 16<sup>th</sup>

Our school community came together in an inspiring display of courage, compassion and meaningful action for the World's Greatest Shave.

Twelve students and Chappy Paul bravely shaved their hair, raising an incredible \$4775 (and counting!) for the Leukaemia Foundation. Alongside this, the Crazy Hair Stall brought colour and fun to the day, with many students and staff getting involved.

Events like this highlight the strength of our community and the power of relationships, kindness and giving back. A heartfelt thank you to Narelle from RiverChic Hair and Kelli from Kelli George Hairdressing for their generous support.

Congratulations to our students who participated:

Albert S  
Ayden F  
Callum M  
Charlotte N  
Elliot B  
George K  
Isaac P  
Jack J  
Noah M  
Paxton M  
Sherman H  
Thien T

It is not too late to donate:

[Click here to make a donation](https://www.worldsgreatestshave.com/fundraisers/CentenarySHS)

<https://www.worldsgreatestshave.com/fundraisers/CentenarySHS>

Check out more from the day here:

[Click here to view more from the day](https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1GrVvHYgm4/)

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1GrVvHYgm4/>

[Click here to view the Facebook post](https://www.facebook.com/share/p/18LjTVJZwR/)

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/18LjTVJZwR/>

## **Jersey Day – Tuesday March 24<sup>th</sup>**

Our first Free Dress Day of the year saw students proudly wearing their favourite jerseys, creating a strong sense of belonging and school spirit.

The day raised \$1044, which will go towards future

Student Forum initiatives – empowering our student leaders to continue creating meaningful opportunities for their peers.

Check out more from the day here:

[Click here to view more information](https://www.facebook.com/share/v/16mHkQ7Wmy/)

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/16mHkQ7Wmy/>

## **Harmony Day – Monday March 30<sup>th</sup>**

Harmony Day celebrations took place on Monday March 30<sup>th</sup>, with activities designed to celebrate diversity, inclusion and respect within our school community.

Students enjoyed orange cordial, paper chains, music, friendship bracelets and more – all aimed at strengthening connections and celebrating what brings us together.

## **Leadership Day – Tuesday March 31<sup>st</sup>**

Our Student Leadership Day brought our leaders together for a day of collaboration, planning and team building.

This day is an important opportunity for students to deepen their relationships, engagement and sense of achievement, while working together to shape the future of student initiatives in 2026.

## **Looking Ahead: Multicultural Week – Term 2 Week 5 (May 18 – May 22)**

The International Captains, supported by the Student Leaders' Forum, is excited to celebrate the rich diversity of our school community during Multicultural Week next term.

Across the week, students can look forward to a range of activities running each AM break, including craft, music, performances and more. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate culture, strengthen belonging, and embrace the diversity that makes Centenary SHS such a vibrant and inclusive community.

We would love to involve our wider community in these celebrations. If you would like to contribute, share your culture, or be involved in any way, please don't hesitate to reach out to me via email.

### **⇒ Free Pens Initiative**

During the recent assessment period, the Student Forum distributed approximately 600 pens to support students

during their exams.

This ongoing initiative reflects our commitment to **achievement and support**, ensuring all students have the tools they need to succeed. It's a small gesture that can make a big difference, particularly during busy and sometimes stressful assessment periods.

The Student Leaders' Forum runs this initiative each term, and we would love the support of our wider community. If you would like to contribute to our Free Pens initiative, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

**Marney O'Dea, Student Leadership Coordinator**

**Email: [modea9@eq.edu.au](mailto:modea9@eq.edu.au)**

## MARKETING AND EVENTS

### Harmony Day

On Monday March 31<sup>st</sup>, we celebrated Harmony Day, a day to celebrate inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone!

We celebrated with:

 Friendship bracelet making

 Music

 Cordial

 Paper lanterns and paper chain making

Check out more from the day here:  
<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1CLMs7V2se/>

We love celebrating student achievement and excellence beyond the classroom, and hearing about the wonderful things our young people are accomplishing. If your young person has an achievement you would like to share, please feel free to contact me at [cwall328@eq.edu.au](mailto:cwall328@eq.edu.au) so we can celebrate it across our school channels.

*Follow us on Facebook to stay in-the-loop on what's been going on and what's coming up within our school community:*  
<https://www.facebook.com/CentenaryStateHighSchool/>.

**Caitlin Wallekers, Marketing, Events and Executive Services**

**Email: [cwall328@eq.edu.au](mailto:cwall328@eq.edu.au)**

## APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

Yum, yum, yum! Our Year 12 Hospitality students ran a flavours of the world pop-up stall at AM break last Tuesday.

Sell out - YES

Tummies full - YES

We're incredibly proud of our students with their preparation and delivery of a great event!

Check out more here:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/18ikuLGFs/>

**Torston Williams, Applied Technology HOD**

**Email: [tcrei0@eq.edu.au](mailto:tcrei0@eq.edu.au)**

## ARTS

Term 1 is done! It's been a fast and furious term, full of learning activities, extra-curricular opportunities and fantastic student achievement. We hope all of our Arts students and families have a safe and happy holiday. See you in Term 2!

### Student Success

Since the start of the term, we've had a number of students nominating and auditioning for Creative Generation – State Schools On Stage. CGEN is an incredible, professionally produced, award-winning arena spectacular, renowned across the country for showcasing the very best of state school talent.

We are proud to announce that in 2026, 12 spectacular students will be representing our school across eight different Arts categories! A huge congratulations to every student who auditioned this year – your dedication and courage to perform is something to be celebrated. Stay tuned for how to purchase tickets to the show, they always sell out fast!

**Angela Sleeman, The Arts HOD**



Congratulations to Year 12 Music Students Van and Talia who have been selected to participate in The Australian Young Composer Program.

This program provides personalised mentorship from Australian composers, fostering advanced skills in composition and orchestration. Van and Talia will be guided by celebrated composers Lisa Cheney and Craig Allister Young, and their creative works will form part of the 'Voices of Tomorrow' collaboration with the Brisbane Symphony Orchestra. Congratulations also to fellow Year 12 Musician Eva who has been selected to sing the compositions at their world premiere! We can't wait to share the details of the premiere performance of their compositions in June!



Congratulations to Year 12 Arts student Yolanda,

who has joined the 2026 Arts Captains after the departure of Gracie. We are excited to have Yolanda on the team!



## Classroom News

Our Year 11 Visual Art students visited the Gallery of Modern Art and the Queensland Art Gallery to begin work on their FIA1 task. A highlight of the day was experiencing Olafur Eliasson's Presence, with students immersing themselves in and interacting with the artworks on display. The purpose of this excursion is to engage with artworks and stimulus to inform their assessment task.



Year 7 Performance have been exploring the Elements of Drama this term, and one of their class activities required them to focus on place and space. Students chose from "closed place" scenarios – a favourite being a nuclear bunker, where a character discovers they're claustrophobic during lockdown... and chaos unfolds! Take a look at the creative ways they used staging to build tension in their scenes.

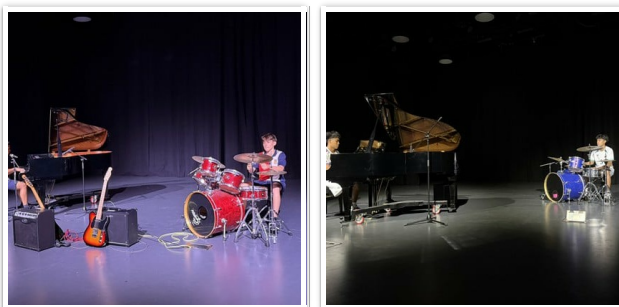


Our Years 11 and 12 General and Applied Drama students experienced the incredibly powerful *Antigone* by Sophocles at La Boite Theatre recently. First performed around 441 BCE, Sophocles' *Antigone* remains powerfully relevant and our students got to witness how contemporary performance practice and actors at the highest level of craft can find the truth in a text 2000 years old. *Antigone* reminds us that history is shaped not just by rulers, but by those who choose to act, often at great personal cost. This performance gave our Year 12 students valuable insight into reimagining classical texts for modern audiences, while our Year 11 students experienced the impact and artistry of live theatre firsthand and we can't wait to see how the play inspires everyone's assessment in the coming weeks!



Our Arts students and staff are involved in each Study Tour to our school and recently, the girls from Jinai Joshi High School in Japan experienced some music, visual art and dance whilst at Centenary SHS. Students were treated to two performances, learnt some social dances and were shown some First Nations art works and attempted their own art to take home as a souvenir. Thank you to Mr Loughheed and our musicians, Mr Holmes and Ms Hanby for sharing their expertise with our visiting students.

Our Year 7 Visual Arts students are printmaking for the first time in a unit exploring representations of ideas and concepts related to the theme of personal map making.



## Instrumental Music News

Best wishes to Year 7 Artist, Audrey, who has entered the Queensland Youth Week Digital Art Competition with an innovative artwork capturing what life is like for young Queenslanders today. Winners are announced in April during Queensland Youth Week – good luck Audrey!

Our Junior musicians attended Music Camp, and wow, what a difference the three days made! We attend camp for many reasons, but two of those are for team building and learning new repertoire. The repeated rehearsals gives us the opportunity to focus learning and prepares us for the rest of the year's performances and events. A huge thank you to Ms Scalia for her organisation of the camp, and to all of the Music Teachers for their time, effort and dedication. Here's what some of our students thought about camp:

Annabelle, Year 9: *"Music camp was an all-round great experience but goofing off in our cabins was ICONIC!"*

Sophie, Year 8: *"Music camp was an adventure I won't forget (iykyk) honestly, fave moment just playing with everyone when it all came together."*

Lucille, Year 9: *"Music camp was a highlight of this year, the activities, spending time with other goal orientated musicians, and listening to other music groups play, has been a truly wonderful experience."*

Harrison, Year 9: *"We extend our heartfelt thanks to the dedicated staff and conductors who made this camp possible."*



The Stage Band performed at the rescheduled Music by The River, on a beautiful Sunday afternoon. Check out the videos on the Facebook page to hear how amazing the band sounded! Thank you to Cr Sarah Hutton for inviting us to play at the event.

Check out more on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1UiVR8qVZd/>

Our ensembles have been performing on assemblies, thank you to the Junior Choir and String Ensemble for your outstanding performances! We have some community performances to end and start the term, as well as Music Camp 2 for our seniors!



We still have some vacancies in our Instrumental Music program. If your young person would like to start an instrument (including piano and guitar), please get in touch with Cultural Coordinator, Ms Natalie Scalia: [nscal0@eq.edu.au](mailto:nscal0@eq.edu.au)

The Arts Faculty are lucky to be supported by a subcommittee of the P&C – a group of parents who meet once per term for an hour (sometimes not even an hour!). Our next meeting is Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Please email HOD Arts: [aslee4@eq.edu.au](mailto:aslee4@eq.edu.au) if you would like more information or you're happy to help in some capacity. We'd love to hear from you if you're interested in sponsoring one of our groups or donating a prize to our Term 2 and Term 4 raffles.

Finally, please find a copy of our Instrumental Music date claimer below. We look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events.

[Click here to download the Instrumental Music Date Claimers](#)

**Angela Sleeman, The Arts HOD**  
Email: [aslee4@eq.edu.au](mailto:aslee4@eq.edu.au)

## BUSINESS/INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

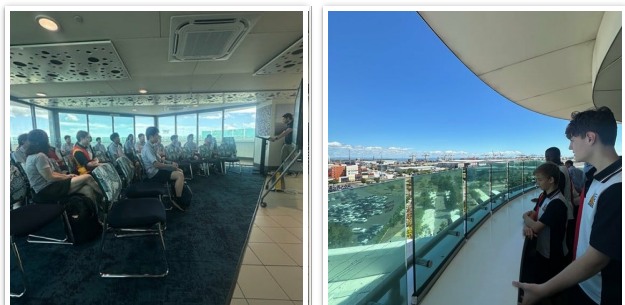
During Week 4, the Year 9 Business and Year 12 Economics students went on a tour of the Port of Brisbane. Students were fascinated to see the different imports and exports that allow our economy to flourish.

*Student report – written by Year 9 student Sam*

The class learned a lot during the Business excursion. When at the Port of Brisbane, we learnt about how some of the cranes were automatic and how some were manual and had to be run by the workers there. Along with this, we learnt about how the Port of Brisbane made a revenue of half a billion Australian dollars a year. The Port of Brisbane tour guide also told us about how most of the crates there for exports were empty, as Australia does not export many finished goods, mainly raw materials like coal, woodchip and grains like Sorghum.

*Student report – written by Year 9 student Aiden*

Throughout the Year 9 Business excursion, in which my class attended the Port of Brisbane, we learnt a multitude of ways the port generates revenue and how it runs. At the beginning of the tour, we particularly learnt on how a large part of the money generated by the port is actually from them leasing and charging a fee for docking ships. Furthermore, we also learnt on how some of the cranes at the dock are automated and some aren't as well as that the entire process once the containers are loaded onto the dock is automated.



**Kirsten Caruso, Business Technology HOD**

**Email: [kcaru11@eq.edu.au](mailto:kcaru11@eq.edu.au)**

**Janelle Kerridge, Information Technology HOD**

**Email: [jkerr172@eq.edu.au](mailto:jkerr172@eq.edu.au)**

## SCIENCE

As Term 1 draws to a close, I would like to acknowledge the strong and successful start to the year within the Science Faculty. It has been wonderful to see students across Years 7 to 12 engaging in their learning and settling into classroom and laboratory routines.

Throughout the term, students have participated in a range of hands-on and interactive learning experiences, developing their understanding of scientific concepts and their application to real-world contexts.

Our junior students have made a strong start to the year through their study of the Australian Curriculum (ACv9):

- Year 7 students have been exploring Chemistry, investigating the properties of substances, distinguishing between pure substances and mixtures, and applying separation techniques in real-world contexts.
- Year 8 students have also been studying Chemistry, building their understanding of atomic structure, elements, compounds, and the organisation of the periodic table.
- Year 9 students have been engaged in Biology, examining body systems and how these systems work together to maintain a stable internal environment.

In the senior phase, Year 10 students are continuing to build strong foundational knowledge and skills in preparation for senior pathways through 10 Science and Electives Life Sciences (QLS) and Physical Sciences (QPS). Our Year 11 students are well into their senior journey in General Science subjects (Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Psychology) and Applied Science (Science in Practice) and Year 12 students have been working diligently on their IA2 assessments. It has been great to see their focus and commitment as they progress through this important stage of their senior studies.

We would also acknowledge the contributions of our 2026 STEM Captains, Melissa and Nhi, promoting STEM opportunities and we welcome our newly appointed 2026 UQ Science Ambassadors: Ameen, Dilkash, Isabelle, Dahnbee, Anjli, Tam and Max.

2026 STEM Captains – Melissa and Nhi



2026 UQ Science Ambassadors – Ameen, Dilkash, Isabelle, Dahnbee, Anjli, Tam, Max



As we move into Term 2, a reminder for students to come prepared with their notebook, equipment, laptop and leather shoes for laboratory lessons.

Thank you to our school community for your ongoing support throughout the term. We wish all families a safe and relaxing break and look forward to continuing our learning journey in Term 2.

**Elizabeth Nicolson, Science HOD**

**Email: [enico12@eq.edu.au](mailto:enico12@eq.edu.au)**

## YEAR 12 REPORT

### A Term of Growth, Achievement and Connection

It has been an incredibly positive and productive time for our Year 12 cohort, with students embracing every opportunity to learn, connect and succeed.

Throughout the term, students participated in a focused lesson on effective study skills, which they then put into practice during their IA block exams. It was fantastic to see students applying these strategies with confidence and maturity as they navigated this important assessment period.

Connection and wellbeing have also been a strong focus. A whole-cohort lesson centred on building positive relationships brought students together through board games, card games and trivia – activities that proved to be a huge hit and a great way to strengthen peer connections.

Our Year 12 students were also fortunate to attend the RACQ Driver IQ presentation. This interactive and informative session provided valuable insights into road safety

and responsible driving. The exemplary behaviour displayed by our cohort during this presentation was a credit to them and the school.

Excitement was high at the beginning of Week 10 as students received their much-anticipated Year 12 jerseys. These mark an important milestone in their final year, with a second round of jerseys set to arrive later next term.

Also in Week 10, we took time to celebrate the many achievements across the cohort. A significant number of students were recognised for outstanding attendance, achieving greater than 91%, alongside numerous sporting and music accomplishments. These achievements highlight the dedication and diverse talents of our Year 12 students.

Looking ahead, Term 2 will continue to prioritise student engagement and wellbeing, with a range of guest speakers visiting to deliver important messages around relationships, sexual health and financial literacy.

As the term comes to a close, we wish all of our Year 12 students and their families a safe and happy Easter break. Take this time to rest and recharge – we look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting term ahead.

**Carla Clarke, Year 12 Coordinator**

**Email: [cclar191@eq.edu.au](mailto:cclar191@eq.edu.au)**

## YEAR 11 REPORT

The first term is officially in the rear-view mirror for our Year 11 cohort. This period has included a number of events that have simply whizzed by!

### Term 1

#### Exams

In a culmination of their work for the term, students have completed their first exam block experience. For some students, this was an intense period with several exams to test their mental fortitude. For others, a time to catch up on sleep and their scrolling stamina.

**Classroom to Career workshops and RYDA**

Students engaged in a work-ready workshop to begin to fine tune their resumes and interview skills in a Classroom to Career workshop. To get to those interviews safely, students were also involved in a Road Safety Day where they engaged in multiple presentations and demonstrations highlighting the importance of safe driving practices.

## Term 2

Term 2 will be bringing with it more trials for the students, as their studies and workload continue to grow. As stresses increase, so can the tension in relationships, resulting in our focus on relationships for our HG Curriculum this term.

### Upcoming Events

Alongside report cards and Parent Teacher Night, the main event in Term 2 for the Year 11 cohort is a financial presentation focussing upon the students' relationship with money and good fiscal practices.

As they settle into the rhythm of their new schooling year, it's imperative not only that students keep up their diligence in their studies, but that they do so in rest too. As such, wishing a relaxing break to all so they may come back refreshed and keep building upon the wonderful progress they are achieving!

**Conor Ensor, Year 11 Coordinator**

**Email: [ktesc0@eq.edu.au](mailto:ktesc0@eq.edu.au)**

# YEAR 8 REPORT

## A Strong Start and Exciting Term Ahead!

It has been a fantastic start to the year for our Year 8 cohort. Transitioning from being our newest secondary students last year to now stepping confidently into their role as Year 8 students, students have shown impressive growth in maturity, independence and their ability to positively contribute to school life. Many staff, myself included, have commented on their willingness to reach out and assist some of our Year 7 students throughout the term which is so warming to hear.

Throughout Term 1, we have been particularly proud of the way students have settled into routines, strengthened friendships and approached their learning

with a more focused and responsible mindset. Many students have embraced the opportunity to lead by example, demonstrating respect, kindness and a growing sense of belonging within our school community, highlighted by our student leadership process and celebration at our Investiture Ceremony earlier in the year.

A key part of this success has been our Home Group (HG) curriculum, which plays an important role in supporting student wellbeing, belonging and development. This term, our focus has been on Health, aligned with our school's wellbeing framework, PERMAH. Through HG, students have explored strategies to support their physical and mental wellbeing, including organisation, sleep awareness, emotional awareness, and healthy habits that set them up for success both in and out of the classroom. Students have really enjoyed this focus and I have had many interesting and in-depth discussion around certain topics, such as sleep and screen time.

As we look ahead to Term 2, our HG focus will shift to Relationships. Students will revisit and explore what it means to build and maintain positive, respectful relationships with peers, teachers and the wider community. This is an important next step in their development, as strong relationships underpin both wellbeing and learning, something that our Year 8 cohort thrive in.

To support this focus, we are excited to be running a Year 8 Whole Cohort Day in Week 5 next term, May 18<sup>th</sup>. This day will provide students with the opportunity to further develop their relationships, collaboration, and leadership skills through a range of engaging, competitive and interactive activities. Just as importantly, it will be a chance for students to connect, have fun and continue building a strong sense of year-level identity and belonging.

Further details about the day can be found through the parent letter sent out at the end of Term 1 as well as QParents. Found here will be specific information about the program, costs and what students will need to bring. Please note that there will be no additional cost, as the event is covered through the school's SRS payment however permission must be granted through QParents for students to attend.

We are incredibly proud of the way our Year 8

students have started the year. Their growth from Year 7 to Year 8 has been clear and we are excited to see them continue to develop throughout the year. With many more opportunities ahead to build confidence, strengthen connections, and grow as learners and individuals, we look forward to all that is still to come.

**Jim Joliffe, Year 8 Coordinator**

**Email: [jjoli0@eq.edu.au](mailto:jjoli0@eq.edu.au)**

## YEAR 7 REPORT

Our Year 7 students have made a fantastic start to their first term of high school. This milestone term has included the completion of NAPLAN testing, where students approached the experience with focus and determination, demonstrating their growing confidence as learners.

Throughout the term, students have shown growth in their willingness to embrace new challenges, build new friendships and develop the skills needed to succeed in a high school environment.

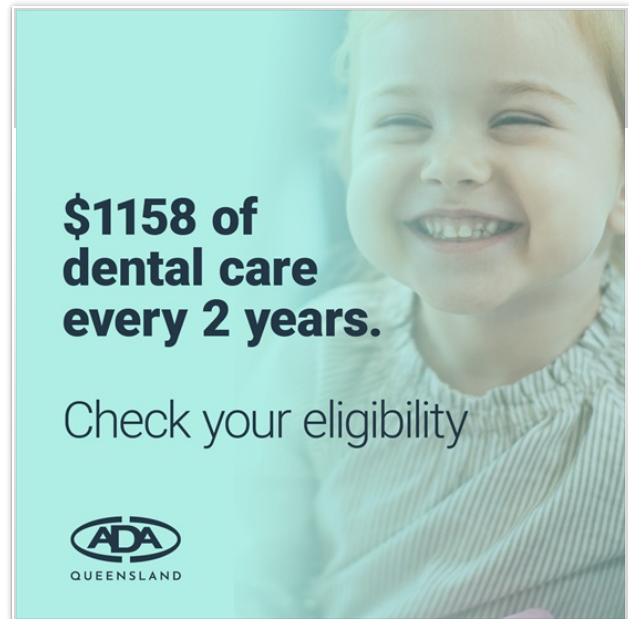
The transition to high school is an important step, bringing new opportunities, challenges and responsibilities. Students are learning to navigate different subjects, teachers and routines, while developing greater independence and organisational skills. It has been wonderful to see their resilience and adaptability as they embrace these changes.

We are proud of the way our Year 7 cohort has begun their high school journey and look forward to seeing their continued development throughout the year.

**Brooke Davis, Year 7 Coordinator**

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## COMMUNITY NOTICES



[Click here to download the Endgame eSports Easter School Holiday calendar](#)

[Click here to download the Future Founders Forums flyer](#)

[Click here to download the Foster Care flyer](#)

[Click here to download the QMEA flyer](#)

