March 2015

2015 WELCOME TO THURINGOWA STATE HIGH SCHOOL

I welcome all new and returning students as well as their families to our Thuringowa State High School community. We currently have over 700 students enrolled from Year 7 to Year 12 which includes over 200 new Year 7 & 8 students. Many years of careful planning has ensured that the transition from primary school to high school has been seamless for our Year 7 students.

We have had a great start to 2015, including our School Leader’s Induction Ceremony and our recent school swimming carnival. Of course there has been plenty of teaching and learning happening every day in every classroom.

This year Thuringowa State High School will continue our School Improvement Agenda with our priorities:

- Improving every student’s Reading, Writing and Numeracy
- Teaching using Explicit Instruction in the classroom
- Promoting high expectations Learning Environment especially in respect to attendance, behaviour and attainment.

You will read more about these in upcoming newsletters. I look forward to meeting many new students and families throughout the year.

2014 OP1s AND SENIOR SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Our 2014 Year 12 students performed exceptionally well last year:

- Two students achieved an OP1 Tertiary Entrance which places them in the top 2% of the State.

- 100% of students who applied received a University Offer

- Over 90% of Year 12 Students received a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) Certificate. Two students also received a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement (QCIA)

- 15 students commenced a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT)
- Improved **Vocational Education and Training (VET)** outcomes

- **95% of all Year 12 students** achieved a State recognised qualification

We are very proud of our students and know they are ready for their next journey.

**NEXT STEP SURVEY**
The Queensland Government is also conducting its annual statewide survey of all students who completed Year 12 in 2014. The Next Step survey is a brief, confidential survey that gains a comprehensive picture of the employment, study and life choices made by Queensland school completers in the year after they finish Year 12.

Between March and June, all our students who completed Year 12 last year can expect to receive instructions to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician’s Office to complete the survey.

Please encourage them to take part. If their contact details have changed, please assist the interviewer with their updated details or forward the survey to their new address so they can participate.

Further information on Next Step is available online at www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/ or on toll free telephone 1800 068 587.

**SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION CONTACTS**
Thuringowa State High School is operating with three Deputy Principals in 2015 to assist with the increase in school size, and support our School Improvement Agenda.

If you have a concern regarding a matter related to your child it is best to deal directly with their classroom teacher or the Head of Department of that subject.

If the further follow up is required the matter will be referred to our Deputy Principals:

- Year 7 & 8 Mrs Tanya Nelson  tnels21@eq.edu.au
- Year 9 & 10 Mrs Joanna Wenck  jwenc1@eq.edu.au
- Years 11 & 12 Mr Tom Frankling  tfran44@eq.edu.au

All our staff may be contacted via email or through the School Office as required.

**SCHOOL UNIFORM**
Thuringowa State High School is a uniform school. Students are expected to wear the correct school uniform every day. All students must wear a school shirt and school shorts every day. Students may only wear short black or white socks and must have sturdy footwear.

Facial piercings are no longer accepted for Year 7-10 or new students at Thuringowa State High School. Any continuing student with a facial piercing must ensure they are flat and not protruding. These students may be requested to remove or cover their piercing whilst at school. Students who continue to not meet the required uniform expectations may receive a consequence or be withdrawn from class to continue their study in the office.
MAKE EVERY DAY COUNT IN 2015
We have high expectations in regards to school attendance. Make 2015 the year when your child doesn’t miss a day of school. Research shows that students who have good patterns of attendance are more likely to achieve at school. If students aren’t at school or don’t stay the whole day, they are missing valuable lessons.

At Thuringowa State High School it is expected that every student will have a 100% attendance rate. This includes being at school on time and ready to learn. Do not let your child miss one day. Every day missed is a lost chance at learning.

SCHOOL SECURITY FENCE
Due to ongoing out of hour’s vandalism, we have had a School Security Fence installed to protect our buildings and assets. To help ensure we have a secure campus all gates will be locked during the day except for the front entrance, and all gates will be locked after hours.

Please note that any person found climbing the fence or within the school grounds without authorised permission will be referred to the Police for further action. Please help monitor our school and keep our buildings and assets safe.

PARENTS AND CITIZENS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The Thuringowa State High School Parents and Citizens Association will hold their 2015 Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 11 March starting at 6.00pm in the Administration Block. The P & C is once again looking forward to supporting our school throughout this year and welcomes any new members.

It is important to us that every day, in every classroom, every student is learning and achieving. We appreciate your support in this partnership.

Grant Dale
Principal
qdale8@eq.edu.au

Principal Grant Dale  qdale8@eq.edu.au
Acting Deputy Principal Tom Frankling  tfrank44@eq.edu.au
Deputy Principal Joanna Wenck  jwenc1@eq.edu.au
Acting Deputy Principal Tanya Nelson  tnesl2@eq.edu.au

HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS:
Languages & Humanities  Heather Reid  hreid12@eq.edu.au
Mathematics, Business & Information Technology  Anna Kingma  aking107@eq.edu.au
Home Economics, ITD, Music, Art, Drama, Library  Edna Luke  eluke3@eq.edu.au
Acting Junior Secondary  Cassandra King  cking145@eq.edu.au
Senior Secondary & VET  Celia O'Keefe  cokee10@eq.edu.au
Science & HPE  Wendy Bode  wboede1@eq.edu.au
Special Education  Loren Wells  lwell568@eq.edu.au
Curriculum  Cheryl Phillips  cphil139@eq.edu.au

https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au
06/03/2015

Dear Parent

WHOOPING COUGH (PERTUSSIS)

There has been a probable case of whooping cough at Thuringowa State High School. Providing students and staff are adequately vaccinated, they are unlikely to have a severe illness, even if they do become infected.

Whooping cough is a highly infectious illness that can be very troublesome at any age, but particularly in the first year of life. The symptoms are a persistent cough that may occur in bouts (often with a breathless ‘whoop’ at the end). Someone with whooping cough is highly infectious only for the first 3 weeks, but could pass the illness on to an infant or baby at home.

Whooping cough and milder respiratory infections frequently spread in schools. If your child develops a troublesome and persistent cough, take him/her to your doctor promptly (even if they are fully immunised) and mention he/she may have had contact with someone with whooping cough. Whooping cough can only spread through coughing, and those in the first few weeks the illness should stay away from school until they have completed at least 5 days of an antibiotic. This is important to prevent further spread.

Whooping cough vaccine is routinely given with vaccinations at 2, 4, and 6 months of age with booster doses given at 4 and 15 years. A booster dose is also recommended for adults with a new baby in the household (but this is not a free dose). Vaccinations are available through either your family doctor or at a Community Health Clinic.

To protect infants before they can be fully vaccinated, a free booster vaccine is available for pregnant women from 28 weeks pregnancy. This is to boost the antibody protection the baby will get from its mother.

Yours sincerely,

S. Donohue
Dr Steven Donohue
Public Health Medical Officer
Communicable Disease Control

https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au
Preparations are well under way for the **Year 7/8 combined camp**. This camp will be held in Week 8 at the Mungalli Falls Outdoor Education Centre.

For those who are camp goers you may want to start collecting the necessary items for camp.

A full list will come out in the coming weeks but you will require the following:

- two pair of closed in shoes – one pair will get wet
- multiple sets of clothes each day – you will get wet (alternatively quick dry clothing)
- T-shirt’s, NOT singlets
- Knee length shorts – not shorty shorts – wear tights under short shorts if necessary
- Sleeping bag or sheets and blanket.

Please also note that Mungalli is Technology Free. As such, we would appreciate it if all I-pods, phones, computerised games, etc were kept at home.

In addition, students should not wear or bring along facial piercings. WHS restrictions do not allow for students to participate if wearing piercings.

Please contact Ms Trudi Schulz
**tschu42@eq.edu.au** if you have any camp enquiries.

We are going to get MAD!

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**If you have any school resources (text books, library books, calculators) at home could you please have your student return them to their teacher or drop them into the Library.**

Thank you

[https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au](https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au)
Vision for Thuringowa State High School

SCHOOL VISION STATEMENT
Great School Great Opportunity

SCHOOL MOTTO
Promoting Achievement

SCHOOL VISION
Thuringowa State High School students will achieve personal success in their learning and contribute as responsible and productive citizens.

We do this by:
- Providing a personalised and student-centred approach to learning
- Creating a culture of learning, high expectations and continuous improvement
- Encouraging equity and social justice
- Supporting personal and community well-being
- Developing partnerships with our community
- Recognising diversity
- Celebrating achievement

Values
- Lifelong Learning – We believe that everyone has the right to learn and can learn
- Quality Achievement – We strive for high expectations and educational excellence
- Positive Relationships – We promote a safe environment, respectful interactions and responsible behaviours
- Connected Communities – We create networks and partnerships across our school community
- School Pride – We celebrate our school identity, achievements and traditions

https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au
School Photos Are Now Available
For Secure Online Purchase
4 Easy Steps to Online School Photos Ordering

Step 1:
Go to www.advancedlife.com.au and enter your school code Q9A REX C2W

Step 2:
Enter your student’s details.

Step 3:
Choose the package that best suits your needs (all orders will be returned to the school for collection.)

Step 4:
Pay for the photos via the shopping cart (upper right corner of the page).

Please note: LATE FEES will apply once orders are closed

Our school photos were taken on the 18th February, 2015. Advanced Life would like you to order with the 4 easy steps detailed above.

As part of Queensland Health 2015 School Immunization Program, all Year 8 and Year 10 Thuringowa State High school students are being offered free immunization against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough.

Year 8 students will also be offered HPV (Human Papillomavirus) immunizations. It is likely that your child last received vaccination when they were pre-school age. A booster in adolescence is recommended to ensure continued immunity against these serious and life threatening diseases.

You should have received immunization permission forms from your child, if not please contact the school.

For your student to be immunized, a signed permission form must be received before 13th March, 2015.

For further information please contact the School Nurse – Nurse Jacqui jdale131@eq.edu.au or 4153 8882

https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au
### Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inter-school Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>10/3/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>11/3/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Riverway Cup - English/Humanities</td>
<td>12/3/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immunisation Yr8 Whooping Cough Diphtheria &amp; Tetanus /HPV &amp; Chicken Pox &amp; Year 10 Whooping Cough/Diphtheria/Tetanus</td>
<td>13/3/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 7/8 Camp</td>
<td>17/3/15-20/3/15</td>
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<td>Work experience for Year 11 Work Place Practice students &amp; the Year 12 students who have to complete their hours of placement</td>
<td>23/3/15 – 27/3/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 1 reports posted home</td>
<td>2/4/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public holiday Easter Friday</td>
<td>3/4/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>First day Term 2</td>
<td>20/4/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anzac Day Parade</td>
<td>24/4/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent/Teacher interview</td>
<td>28/4/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inter-House Cross Country</td>
<td>1/5/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>SFNQ Skills on Show Careers Expo</td>
<td>7/5/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
<td>12-14/5/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>13/5/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theatre Restaurant full day rehearsal</td>
<td>18/5/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inter-School Cross Country</td>
<td>19/5/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immunization Year 8 Chickenpox &amp; HPV</td>
<td>21/5/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theatre Restaurant</td>
<td>22,29,30/5/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theatre Restaurant Student Night</td>
<td>23/5/15</td>
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</tbody>
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### Insurance Cover for Students

Insurance cover for students undertaking physical activities.
Physical activity and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury. Parents are advised that the Department of Education Training and the Arts does not have Personal Accident Insurance cover for students. Education Queensland has public liability cover for all approved school activities and provides compensation for students injured at school only when the Department is negligent. If this is not the case, then all costs associated with the injury are the responsibility of the parent or caregiver. It is a personal decision for parents as to the type and level of private insurance they arrange to cover students for any accidental injury that may occur.

### THE SCHOOL ABSENCE LINE IS 4753 8866
**PLEASE RING IF YOUR STUDENT IS ABSENT FROM SCHOOL OR EMAIL 2172_Absences@eq.edu.au**

Check out the new [Every Day Counts videos](http://www.youtube.com/DETPortables) live on DETE TV

[http://www.youtube.com/DETPortables](http://www.youtube.com/DETPortables)

[https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au](https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au)
Greenheart: Eco-news
‘Working for our school, our community, our future’

A new year, a new challenge but the Eco-warriors are on the case.

With the departure of Ms DeRuyter (founder and keen environmentalist) from our school, the Eco-warrior student group has continued their hard work in developing and maintaining their sustainable projects within the school and the wider community.

Last week, saw the induction of our 2015 Eco-warrior Student Enviro-council members:

Travis Wilson (Year 8); Matthew Weston (Year 8); Caleb Kleinitz (Year 9); Elliott Vamplew (Year 9); Katherine Hayward (Year 9); Liam Perryman (Year 9); Andrew Cassidy (Year 10); Braden West (Year 10); Kiren Vamplew (Year 10); Corey Hancock (Year 10); Braydon Moody (Year 10); Caleb Hancock (Year 12)

These dedicated students have already begun working on the following projects:

**Recycling**
The students will be revitalising our recycling program by ensuring recycling bins are more easily identifiable and therefore improve our recycling efforts.

Every staffroom will have a special recycling wheelie bin for teachers to use to recycle paper and cardboard. They will also have a general recycling bin for all other recyclable materials.

Outside the science staffroom, there is a recycling bin from Battery World where you can recycle batteries of any size and shape (except car batteries).

Just inside the science staffroom, there is a recycling box from Planet Ark for you to recycle phones and ipads/tablets.

In the library, there is a recycling bin for printer cartridges.

**Worm farming**
Food scraps from staffrooms and the canteen will be recycled and used to feed the worms in our worm farms. In return, the worms produce an organic fertiliser that is then used on our gardens.
**Bushtucker garden**
The bushtucker garden was established in 2010 and it contains a huge variety of bushtucker trees, shrubs and grasses.

Over the holidays, it has really flourished and therefore the Eco-warriors will be undertaking three working bees this term to bring it back to a condition that will allow students to learn about Indigenous plants and their uses once again.

Thank you to the many Thuringowa High staff who are volunteering to support the award winning Eco-warriors this year. Your help is greatly appreciated.

**Clean up Australia Day**
This year, Clean Up Australia celebrated 25 years. Since the national event started in 1990, Australians have donated more than 27.2 million hours cleaning up their suburbs, parks and waterways. An estimated 288,650 tonnes of rubbish has been removed from 145,754 sites across the country.

On Sunday 1\textsuperscript{st} March, our school’s Greenheart team joined our local community at Robertson Park, Pallarenda to clean up the beach. It was an absolutely hot day but we all enjoyed our time together doing our bit for the local ecosystems.

Congratulations to: Mrs Ritchie, Miss Manz, Caleb, Corey, Elliott, Kiren, Katherine and Liam

https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au
There will be many more events and activities taking place in the Greenheart Program. If you would like to become a member, please see Mrs Bode in the Science staffroom.

Wendy Bode
Head of Department
Science & HPE

https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au
Welcome Year 7 & 8 Students! After many years of preparation, their high school journey began on Tuesday the 27th of January.

Students have their own space to spend lunchtimes, called a Junior Secondary Precinct and it includes a sheltered area. Students are settling into high school nicely, and we are very happy to have our new students and staff.
2015 Year 7 & 8 “MEET AND GREET”

Wednesday the 11th of February saw many families attend the 2015 Year 7 & 8 “MEET AND GREET” afternoon

Starting with a sausage sizzle cooked by Chappy Dan, and classroom tours guided by Year 11 Peer leaders, our parents were able to familiarise themselves with the routines and learning environment at Thuringowa State High School.

After a formal introduction to the school by our Junior School Captains, Liam Perryman and Penelope Whyte, parents were informed about our support services offered to students at our school.

Parents were also given time at the end of the afternoon to meet their child’s teachers and introduce themselves.

A very pleasant afternoon was had by all.

Our next Junior Secondary activity will be our Camp to Mungalli Falls from the 17th to the 20th of March.

https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au
RESOURCES SCHEME 2015

A big thank you to all families who have already made payments for the 2015 Resource Scheme, and for subject fees, laptops and certificate courses for their students. Final invoicing for 2015 has now been completed, and these have been mailed out to families or emailed if you have nominated an email address to receive accounts. If you have not received yours, or if you need to update your information, please contact the office.

Please also remember that outstanding fees from previous years must also be actioned. Contact the school if you wish to commence a payment plan.

We are able to process your payments by the following methods…
- at the school counter by cash or EFTPOS,
- process regular payments from your nominated credit card,
- you can collect a form to initiate Centrelink deductions direct to the school account,
- we also welcome payments direct to our bank account:-
  Thuringowa State High School
  BSB – 064 823
  Account Number – 00091255
  (Use your students EQ ID number and either the invoice number or a brief description such as Fees/Laptop/Camp as the reference).

Camps and Trips – before students can attend these type of activities, all fees relating to current and previous years must be paid in full, or a payment plan to be in place.

ID CARDS - will be issued when a minimum of $50 towards the 2015 Resource Scheme is received.

YEAR 12 STUDENTS - All outstanding fees must be paid prior to purchasing your Senior Formal ticket in November 2015.

Certificate Courses - Some VET Qualifications are offered to students through partnerships with external Registered Training Organisations (RTO’s). These organisations charge a fee for student access to the course. These courses include Certificate III Business and Fitness, Certificate III Early Childhood Education and Care, Certificate II in Automotive and Certificate II in Kitchen Operations.

- Students / parents must ensure that a deposit and payment plan has been completed if the full cost of the course cannot be paid in full.
- Students who do not pay for their certificate courses by the end of their school year will not receive their Nationally Recognised Certificate or Statement of Attainment until the applicable fee is paid in full.
- Students will be removed from courses if deposit or a payment plan has not been made or fees are not up-to-date.
- Finally, please be aware that if a student withdraws from a course after June 30th, full course fees will still be charged by the external RTO, so there will be no refunds.

For VET certificates delivered by the school, fees charged are NOT service fees but material fees. Students who withdraw from a fee base VET course will be refunded on a pro rata basis. Students who require a replacement copy of a Statement of Attainment or a Nationally Recognised Certificate will be charged a fee for the replacements.

Karen Patrick
Business Services Manager

https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au
Changes to the Secondary Schools Tax File Number Program in 2015

The Secondary Schools Tax File Number (TFN) Program will not continue beyond 31 December 2014. This means that School TFN forms will no longer be processed beyond this date.

How students can apply for a TFN from 1 January 2015

The Australian Taxation Office in partnership with Australia Post is making it easier for individuals to apply for a TFN.

Students can now apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office.

Applying online is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a TFN. More information on applying online can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for 'QC27248'.

Students who are unable to visit a participating Australia Post office will need to complete the application form Tax file number - application or enquiry for individuals form (NAT 1432). More information about lodging this form can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for 'QC22604'.

The ATO will continue working with teachers to educate students about tax and superannuation. The curriculum resource Tax, Super & You is a free, easy to use, online educational resource aligned to the school curriculum of each state and territory. This resource can be accessed at taxsuperandyou.gov.au

In the coming weeks we will provide more information by email on how students can apply for a TFN and the educational services we can provide. In the meantime if you require any further information you can phone 1300 130 282 between 8:00am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday.

Regards
Steve Vesperman
Deputy Commissioner of Taxation

Our main form of communication with parents is through our monthly newsletter. We have taken to emailing our newsletter to as many families as possible. By doing this we have been able to save an enormous amount of money on paper, photocopying and postage which has been redirected to providing resources for your children. It also allows us to have a much higher quality newsletter.

If your student brought this newsletter home, and you have an email address, could you please email tberg8@eq.edu.au and you will be added to the distribution list to receive the newsletter by email.

Newsletters can be viewed on our website

https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au
Dear Parent/Guardian

The Townsville Dental Service is now offering a general course of dental care every year to all eligible students attending high school.

Eligibility criteria for this service include either of the following options:

- If your child is eligible for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule CDBS (aged up to 17 years for any one day of the calendar year), and or
- If your child is currently enrolled in Year 7, 8, 9 & 10 (no CDBS required)

If you are unsure if your child is eligible for this service please call Townsville Dental staff on 4789 9900

Requirements for treatment include:

- Students should be accompanied by a parent/guardian to the initial appointment so that consent and medical history can be completed.
- Parents are to notify their child’s school of all dental appointments during school hours.
- It is the parent’s responsibility to ensure their child’s attendance at all dental appointments.
- If your child is unable to attend their dental appointment, please phone the clinic prior to the appointment to reschedule.
- Appointments are offered through the following clinics located at Kirwan, North Ward, Wulguru and Central Dental clinics.
- **Please bring your Medicare card to your first appointment.**

Yours sincerely

Dr Sarah Wilkinson
Director of Oral Health Services
Townsville Health Service District

Office: Oral Health Services
Postal: PO Box 1596
138 Thuringowa Drive
Thuringowa Central 4817

Phone: 07 4789 9900
Fax: 07 47899901

https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au
What is the effect of blue light (emitted by electronic devices) on sleepiness?

There are numerous brain studies that show melatonin, a hormone associated with nighttime, signals that it is time to sleep. The pineal gland, an organ in the brain, begins to release melatonin a couple of hours before your regular bedtime, and light – particularly of the blue variety – can keep the pineal gland from releasing melatonin – affecting the onset of sleepiness.

The problem is, although most of our screens emit light of all colours, it is their blues in particular that pose a danger to sleep. Blue light is especially good at preventing the release of melatonin. In fact, you don’t even have to be staring directly at a screen; if enough blue light hits the eye, the gland can stop releasing melatonin.

Sleep influences 4 main areas:
1. Body systems, like cardiovascular and endocrine systems and physical health.
2. Emotional and mental health.
3. Behaviour, peer and family relationships.
4. Learning, attention and problem solving.

Recommended pre-sleep wind down:
- Get active during the day to boost sleep at night.
- Eat dinner a few hours before bed (a small snack later is fine).
- **Switch off all screens an hour before bedtime at a minimum.**
- Get into a good bedtime routine – this gets the brain prepared for sleep.
- Engage in reading activities at bedtime, rather than games or shows with flashing lights and movement.

Jacqui Dale
School Nurse
WANTED:

The Marine and Aquatics Practices Department is seeking resources for their class practical activities and assessment. We need small outboard engines (2 stroke) to show students how to service a marine engine.

Anyone with an outboard engine (working or not) who would like to donate, please contact Celia O’Keeffe on 47538829.

We also need any old or broken fishing rods and reels that you don’t want any more, as students learn to repair these.

Celia O’Keeffe
Marine Teacher

2015 promises to be a very exciting year for the Music Department. Our team this year consists of Ms Gillian Webster (classroom music), Mrs Fiona Murakami (brass, woodwind, percussion), and Mrs Deb Wilson (strings).

With the increase in numbers participating in the instrumental program brass, woodwind and percussion lessons will be held each Tuesday and Thursday this year.

Band rehearsal commenced on Thursday week 3, from 2.30pm to 3.30pm. String lessons are on Friday with ensemble rehearsal this year from 12.50pm to 1.15pm (second break).

I would like to take this opportunity of welcoming new and existing students to Thuringowa High School. If you have any queries in regards to your child’s music tuition, please not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to meeting parents at performances throughout the year.

Gillian Webster
Classroom music teacher
Indigenous Printmakers

Our Year 11 and 12 printmaking group have been chosen by Umbrella Studios to be their public face.

Our students and their works will be featuring in many art publications, and we are very thankful for the opportunity!

They were very impressed with our students, their creative talents and motivation.

Danielle Year 12

During the recent holidays, Danielle competed in the representative team for netball. The competition was at Palm Beach, on the Gold Coast.

She fundraised at Bunnings after making the team. Well Done!
The school's tuckshop will begin offering EFTPOS transactions to students and staff from Term 2, 2015.

During winter extra hot food is available.

Our tuckshop is self service. Students move through the line, select food and drinks and pay either cash or EFTPOS on exiting.
Thank you to Muffin Break – Willows for providing the muffins for HAT program each and every week.

What are you doing after school on Wednesday or Thursday?

Join the ‘Homework Assessment Tuition’ program

WHO:  Years 7 - 12
WHEN:  Every Wednesday & Thursday
TIME:  2:45pm - 4:00pm
WHERE: Library
COST:  It’s FREE!
BRING: Class work, homework, assessment

Safe, supportive, supervised
Homework help
Study time
Assessment assistance and tutoring
Teacher support
Refreshments and snacks

https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au
Welcome to the online School Library Catalogue


- You will be able to access the whole school library catalogue online at home using search tools like subject, title, author and series.

- It also contains our powerful related topics option to help researchers explore entire areas of interest and knowledge all starting with just a simple subject search...

- Educational websites - Access to over 7,000 SCIS™ catalogued educational websites

- Links to other great resources you can use at home ‘Clickview Online’

There is a link to our catalogue on the Thuringowa State High School website [https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx](https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx)

If you have any questions or queries regarding this please contact Louise Walters lwalt35@eq.edu.au
Senior School NEWS

Year 11 and 12 Tertiary Education Preparation

All OP eligible students who intend on sitting the Queensland Core Skills Test (QCS) are enrolled in TEP. The Year 11 program focuses on several concepts including students’ understanding about the QCS Test, their Senior Education Profile, and the Queensland Certificate of Education. In addition, students work through life skills focusing on managing time and goal setting before moving into core literacy and numeracy skill development, visual literacy and understandings of the Common Curriculum Elements (CCE’s) and how they are assessed in the QCS test.

A letter was sent out in the beginning of the term to parents of students in Year 11 TEP regarding an important Text that needs to be purchased for the course. The text is $20.00, and students will use this text over the two year course. “Pathways to Success” is an exceptional workbook designed to assist your senior students to excel in their preparation for the QCS, develop effective learning skills, consolidate basic literacy and numeracy skills, and improve higher order thinking skills.

Students or parents are requested to ensure that the text book is purchased by week 5, as TEP teachers will be using the text in lessons. Payments can be made to the administration office.

Year 12 students have refreshed their understandings of the QCE rules, the QCS test requirements and preparing themselves for Year 12. Focus this term will be on succeeding in the Short Response test. Feedback will be given to students on their practice writing task (done in 2014), identifying areas that need development.

TAFE

Over 20 students in Years 11 and 12 are participating in TAFE courses on Wednesdays this year. Classes started on the 4th February, however there are some vacancies still available in some courses.

Students going to TAFE are generally those students who have considered taking a non OP pathway, and who intend on getting a trade or pursuing work after school. The courses have been subsidised by the government, making access to most of the courses free.

Courses include Certificate II in Health Services, Furnishing, Electro-technology and Hospitality. Other Certificate I courses include Construction and Plumbing.

Whilst students are absent from school every Wednesday, it is imperative that they communicate effectively with all stakeholders. It is expected that students organise with their school teacher a convenient way to collect work that is missed while they are at TAFE. Additionally, if students are struggling with the extra workload, it would be expected that they see the Head of Senior School, Mrs Celia O’Keeffe or other school support staff to put a plan into action which will support them to complete school and TAFE.

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Careers Australia and Certificate II in Kitchen Operations and Certificate II in Automotive

Students in Years 11 and 12 had the opportunity to enrol in these certificate courses for the first time in 2015. Both courses are 12 month courses, contributing 4 credits towards students’ Queensland Certificate of Education.

Kitchen Operations is directed towards students intending on entering the hospitality industry, with a focus on being a chef or working in the kitchen.

Students from Shalom Christian College attend Thuringowa for the delivery of the course on Tuesdays. So far, students have made decorative flowers out of carrots, and penguins out of vegetables to serve to children. Students will eventually develop the skills to complete a kitchen service.

Automotive services students attend Shalom Christian College on Wednesdays to undertake training in the fully equipped trade training centre on site. Students work on tablets for all their theory work. Students will have access to a full working car, hoists and equipment to learn how to undertake general services and maintenance on engines.

GenR8 Program in Transport and Logistics

What is the GenR8 program?

GenR8 is an award winning school to work transition program for Year 12 students wanting to enter the Transport and Logistics Industry. The program includes –

- industry awareness and connectivity
- a nationally recognised qualification
- industry work placements
- industry employment opportunities

The program runs over the full Year 12 school year on Wednesdays. It combines 20 weeks of structured work placements (1 day per week) in Terms 2 and 3, with a nationally recognised qualification (Certificate II in Logistics), which students undertake at Barrier Reef institute of TAFE.

The program provides opportunities for Year 12 students to identify employment options,
and pathways within businesses, whilst gaining a nationally recognised qualification contributing 4 credits towards the QCE, and essential employability skills.

We have 7 students placed at Followmont, TNT, Nortans, Trailer Sales and Woolworths this year. We wish them the best of luck with the program completion.

Thuringowa has been a BEACON School for approximately three years now. The Beacon Foundation is a national non-profit organisation which assists over 15,000 young Australians from approximately 120 schools and communities across Australia each year.

The Beacon model focusses on engaging students in practical, solution-focused programs that mobilise the school, parents and businesses in the community to create positive opportunities and knowledge for skills development. Beacon’s vision is an Australia that understands, cares and is motivated to support young people to successfully transition from education to meaningful employment.

How is Beacon helping us this year?

Across Years 10, 11 and 12 there are a number of programs that will be held. These include:

- Beacon Ambassador Training
- Business Breakfast – inviting businesses from Townsville to attend the school, witness BEACON chart signing, and work with the school to determine how we can help each other
- Business Blackboards – having industry people come into classrooms to teach students important industry and workplace concepts – helping make learning authentic, meaningful and realistic.
- Structured Workplace Learning with host employers – Cummins, Holiday Inn, Stockland
- Work Readiness Polish Programs
- Assistance with school to work transition programs and Senior Education and Training Plans and many more.

Congratulations to BEACON Ambassadors who will be assisting with the organisation and program event management.
Beacon Ambassador Training
On Monday the 16th of February, 8 students from different year levels were given the opportunity to undertake 2 hours of Beacon training.
This was an amazing opportunity for juniors to prepare for senior schooling, and for senior students to further their knowledge on how to be a better leader. We did many group activities which involved working together to solve problems. It also involved planning events for future school activities.

Each student including myself learnt a lot of new things about how to be a better leader, and we were pushed out of our comfort zone. We look forward to more Beacon training and to becoming better leaders.
Ceirra Year 12

GRIP Leadership Conference
Our Senior and Junior School leaders attended the annual GRIP Leadership Conference held at the Mercure Inn on the 12th February.

GRIP is a Leadership Conference which teaches students extensive qualities about how to maintain leadership positions.

I had the pleasure of attending this event along with Ms King and our leaders who displayed the finest of leadership qualities.
Ms Calahorra

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Work Experience Year 11 and 12

All students on a non OP Pathway are enrolled in Certificate II in Workplace Practices.

A mandatory requirement of the course is the completion of 80 Hours of structured workplace learning, for the competency GENSWL201C Participate in Structured Workplace Learning where students need to demonstrate ability to:

a) Comply with workplace policies and procedures;
b) Work effectively to complete allocated tasks;
c) Work harmoniously and productively with others.

Students have been asked to complete a preference form for placement. The work experience block is in Week 9 which is the 23rd March to 27th March.

All Year 11 students in Workplace Practices must make every effort to assist myself and Mrs Terry Bergman to organise a placement. Year 12 students, who have not yet completed 80 hours of work placement must also organise a final placement through the school.

Students who have information on an employer who is willing to take them for the week should forward this information to Mrs O’Keeffe or Mrs Bergman as soon as possible.

Students SHOULD NOT ORGANISE THEIR OWN PLACEMENTS directly with employers without the school having the details of the placements and a workplace agreement signed by all parties.

Lastly, students who do not have work experience organised for any particular reason must attend school for the week.

If parents have any questions about their student’s senior schooling, they can contact me on 47538829 or cokee10@eq.edu.au

Celia O’Keeffe
Head of Department
VET, Senior Secondary

https://thuringowashs.eq.edu.au
Languages and Humanities Department

A great start to 2015!
There is a lot of exciting things happening in class.
Welcome to the Year 7 and 8 students!

Chappy Cheese Burger Day
This term’s Chappy Tuck Shop Day was on Friday 6th March. This is a once per term opportunity for Chappy to put on the apron, muster the special ingredients, and get some special Chappy cheese burgers out for your enjoyment.

There was also soft drinks, chocolates, cupcakes, pies...lots to choose from.

All profits raised on this day went towards the chaplaincy service in our amazing school community. Thank you to all involved who purchased their lunch on Friday 6th March.

Brekky Program now 5 days
While we are talking food, a reminder that we have an amazing breakfast program now running 5 days a week.

This runs from the Brekky Room near the Tuckshop from 8am till the first bell.

It’s free, thanks mainly to the support of Brumbies Upper Ross, milkshake sales from our milkshake day on Thursdays, and generous donations from many of our staff.

Donations of margarine, jams, peanut paste, vegemite, etc is encouraged.
Thinking about how you can be a good friend is a first step in making friends, along with thinking about places you might go to make friends. There are also some skills you can work on. If you feel like making friends is more difficult than it should be, you might be looking at something a bit more serious, so talk to someone you trust.

Everyone deserves friends and finding it hard to make friends doesn’t mean there’s anything wrong with you. But there are a couple of things you can do which might make the process of making friends a bit easier.

**Friend ready**

If you’re looking to make friends, it’s worthwhile thinking about things you can do that will make you the best friend you can be:

- **Work on self-awareness.** It’s really important when looking to have any relationship with another person that you’re aware of who you are, your values and beliefs.
- **Friendships come to those who wait.** Don’t be too disappointed if your decision to make some new friends doesn’t result in heaps of friends straight away. Making a network of friends is quite a slow process but if you’re patient, you’ll end up with a whole crew of people who are lucky to be your friend.
- **Try not to bitch.** Whether you’re a guy or a girl, it can sometimes be hard to resist building friendships based on a shared dislike of someone else. Be aware though that this can make you seem like an untrustworthy friend, so can backfire if you’re not careful.
- **Don’t forget who you are.** Sometimes the urge to make friends can make us want to change who we are. But you shouldn’t feel that you have to give up a part of yourself to make friends with others. Not only will this mean that your friendships aren’t genuine, you’ll be missing out on meeting people who think the real you is awesome.

**Places to go**

Beyond the usual places like school or university, there are some other alternative places to find friends that you might not have thought of:

- **Join a club or group that interests you.** Chances are there’ll be people there who you’ll get on with because, after all, you must like at least one thing in common!
- **Volunteer.** There is so many good things that can come out of volunteering. Not only are you helping others, but there’s also a chance you’ll make friends while doing it.
- **Party on.** Try not to turn down invitations to parties or events. The more people you see, the more people you meet, the more friends you’re likely to make.

**It’s bigger than this**

If you feel like making friends is impossible and you’ve practiced these strategies but they haven’t worked, it might be worth talking to someone who can help. By talking to someone you trust, or an experienced expert, you’ll be able to get some unique strategies that will be tailored to the particular challenges you are facing.

Article from [http://au.reachout.com/how-to-make-friends](http://au.reachout.com/how-to-make-friends)
Community Notices

Thuringowa Brass Band invites brass and percussion players of all ages and abilities to come and join us. We are your local community band, serving the community through music. Enjoy the music, enjoy the company! Visitors welcome. Rehearsing Monday nights (excluding public holidays) at the Thuringowa Soundshell (behind the Council offices) 7:15 for a 7:30pm start. For more info, phone the Secretary on 0419667933, email info@thuringowabrass.org, or just show up.

All Welcome!!

81st ANNUAL TOWNSVILLE MASONIC CHARITY DEBUTANTE BALL
SATURDAY 30 MAY 2015 DEBS WANTED
YOUNG LADIES (16 YEARS AND OLDER)
REGISTER BY THURSDAY 2ND APRIL 2015
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION
visit http://townsvilleeisteddfod.org.au/tsvdebs/
or telephone: Anne: (07) 47889535
or email: klats@optusnet.com.au
(Subject: 2015 Deb Ball)
Youth Mental Health First Aid (3rd Ed.)

Evening Course

Youth Mental Health First Aid is a 14-hour course for youth workers, professionals, sporting coaches, teachers and families. Learn first aid skills for dealing with mental health crisis situations and the early stages of mental health problems affecting young people.

This course will be run over 4 Thursday evenings

**Thursday 16 April, 23 April, 30 April & 7 May 2015**

Each evening will run from 5:30-9pm and will include a manual and dinner.

A certificate will be issued upon completion of the four sessions.

**Location: headspace Townsville /ATAPS, 2 - 14 Sporting Drive, Riverway, Thuringowa Central, QLD 4817**

Cost: $120-00 per participant.

Facilitators:

Kirsten Seymour – Community Awareness and Social Recovery Coordinator, Psychologist, headspace Townsville.

Michelle Bell – Mental Health Liaison Officer, Social Worker, Townsville Mackay Medicare Local.

**What’s covered in the course?**

Depression – Anxiety – Psychosis – Substance Use Disorders – Intentional Self Harm – Eating Disorders - Thoughts of Suicide

**How can you enroll?** Complete attached registration and return to Townsville-Mackay Medicare Local (TMML)

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