The Chinchilla State High School acknowledged the 2016 student leaders at the Leadership Ceremony last Tuesday, 9 February. School Captains, Senior House Captains, Committee Chairpersons and Form Captains were presented with their badges and certificates.

Congratulations to these students for accepting the responsibility of these important roles. We look forward to their strong leadership throughout the year ahead.

### Senior

**Committee Chairpersons**

- **Cultural**: Lily Zerbst
- **Environmental**: Alexander Schoff
- **Media**: Jacqui DeLandelles
- **Sport**: Grant Flanigan
- **Welfare**: Nerissa Young
- **Interact**: Chelsea Wright

### Junior

**Committee Chairpersons**

- **Cultural**: Tiarne Leeding
- **Environmental**: Emma Duce
- **Media**: Tawnie Benecke
- **Welfare**: Keal Kutija

---

**School Captains**

- **Vice Captains**: Tommi Keating, Nason Smith
- **Captains**: Katie Gersekowski, Samuel Dickman

**Senior House Captains**

- **Atkins**: Alyse Wood, Casey Walsh
- **Black**: Georgia Walsh, Brady Drescher
- **Evans**: Erin Sevil, Harrison Bourke
- **Wheeler**: Brooke Budden, Matthew Edwards

**Junior House Captains**

- **Atkins**: Maddison Ward, Christopher Gaskell
- **Black**: Georgie Statham, Jackson Weier
- **Evans**: Marni Sevil, Carmelo Keating
- **Wheeler**: Savanna Evans, Lachlan Cardillo

**Form Captains**

- 7-1: Bridie Benecke
- 7-2: Caitlyn Manuel
- 7-3: Shiralee Willett
- 7-4: Jemima Lithgow
- 7-5: Alyssa Cox
- 8-1: Lauren Fendley
- 8-2: Chaisley Nothdurft
- 8-3: Jacob Coase
- 8-4: Lilly Gould
- 9-1: Jack Jones
- 9-2: Ian Woodcock
- 9-3: Heidi Blinco
- 9-4: Coby Calleja

- 10-1: Gregory Walters
- 10-2: Amara McIntosh
- 10-3: Matthew Cullen
- 10-4: Hamish Lithgow
- 10-5: Kendall Budden

- 11-1: Heidi Lithgow
- 11-2: Mia Wilms
- 11-3: Isaac Forrest
- 11-4: Sallie-Anne Sommerfeld

- 12-1: Matthew Gaskell
- 12-2: Courtney O’Leary
- 12-3: Lane Symons
- 12-4: Erica Woodcock
Dear parents, students, staff and community supporters,

**World Science Festival Brisbane’s Chinchilla Regional Program**

The Queensland Museum in Brisbane has secured the World Science Festival for the next two years and it has never been held out of New York. As a result of a very productive partnership between our school’s Science Department, the Queensland Museum Network and QGC, it was decided that Chinchilla would host the opening event for this international event that will be held in Brisbane from 9-13 March.

Last Friday evening, I had the pleasure of accompanying Miss Jackie Beck (Head of Department Maths/Science) and Miss Emma Nicoll (Science teacher) to the Future Makers Event for the World Science Festival Brisbane’s ‘Chinchilla Regional Program’. There were numerous dignitaries in attendance, including the Minister for Science, Leeanne Enoch. Miss Beck delivered an excellent address on the numerous positive outcomes that have been generated for our students and staff from the new science teaching program. It has been designed in partnership with the Queensland Museum scientists and QGC.

The community support at the Saturday program was amazing, with the Chinchilla Cultural Centre full of people from all age brackets. Seeing some of our state’s best scientists in action was a great drawcard and there were plenty of interesting displays and presentations. On Friday night and Saturday, I had many staff from the Queensland Museum and QGC wanting to tell me how ‘amazing’ our students were at Friday’s program. Well done Chinchilla on supporting this great opportunity for our town and well done to our staff and students who were outstanding ambassadors for our community at Friday’s program. From New York to Chinchilla – the organisers were very happy with a successful start to this international event.

**Student Leadership Ceremony**

Congratulations to all of our student leaders who were inducted into their roles in the Leadership Ceremony last Tuesday. We wish all of these students the very best of luck as they embark on their leadership journey for 2016.

Well done to Mr Marcus Weller for his leadership of this event and to the staff who contributed to the program. Sincere thanks to the parents, friends and community representatives who attended in support of our students and our school.

**Student Numbers**

Our school continues to grow slowly. On Day 8 we submitted our enrolment numbers which totalled 639 students. Our staffing numbers for 2016 will be finalised in accordance with this figure. Since that day, a number of students have continued to enrol and we have over 650 students on our rolls.

**2016 Key Priorities**

This year our school staff are working with a shared vision of ‘every student succeeding.’ To develop a platform where students can succeed it is important that ‘every staff member is succeeding’ in their respective roles.

---

**South West Affiliation Fees**

Following on from last year, students attending any South West trial will need to pay a levy of $15. Students will not be invoiced for this payment; however, payment is to go through the School Office. Students attending Darling Downs trials will have to pay a separate fee to Darling Downs Schools Sport. This covers a range of fees including facilities hire, affiliation fees, TRS, equipment, etc.

---

**Sports Information**

A number of our students are often selected to represent the region at state carnivals throughout the year. The school’s policy is for students who have been selected in these teams to inform the school that their child will be away for those days. I do understand that permission is provided by the school in order for the student to attend; however, it is procedure to let the school know before the carnival.

---

**School Improvement Agenda**

**Focus Areas – Measurable Student Outcomes**

- Student Attendance – Aiming for 100% with a minimum of 92% for individual students
- Literacy and Numeracy development
- Student outcomes – Improved A – E data
- School Wide Positive Behaviour for Learning (SWPBL) implementation – Student engagement levels – all students to be on a ‘C’ or above for Effort and Behaviour in every subject

**2016 Attendance Minimum Target for Each Student – 92%**

- Every lesson, every day, counts at Chinchilla State High School. We expect that all students will attend every day unless they are too sick to attend. Any absences should be supported with a note from parents or a phone call to the School Office.
- The progressive Whole School Attendance Data for Term 1 is 92.6% which is just above our minimum target of 92% attendance for each student.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year level</th>
<th>Last Fortnight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>89.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>92.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>91.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>90.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>92.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>98.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Best wishes to all students, families, staff and supportive community members.

Kind regards,

Mr Scott Rowan

---

**A Quick Quote:**

“Perseverance, secret of all triumphs.”

- Victor Hugo

---

Mr Christopher McEvoy

Acting Head of Department – HPE/LOTE
**Homework Centre**

The pros and cons of homework have been hotly debated over the years; however the fact remains that the crowded curriculum and the full high school timetable — not to mention the need for building knowledge in chosen subjects — make homework a necessary part of school life. Many parents would agree that, at times, homework can be a challenging and even daunting task. Even if we are blessed with children who are independent and require little assistance beyond the occasional monitoring, every family’s situation differs and daily schedules impact on the habits and skills our children develop.

Discussions with many students have highlighted the need for high school students to have a good study centre at home. As parents we can support their developing independence in how we set up their homework space. Good lighting, seating and a relatively quiet space help greatly. Stacking the area with paper, erasers, paper clips, sharpeners, rulers and dictionaries is also a great start. Support their ability to organise and manage their school week by hanging a bulletin board for calendars, exam schedules, and important notices (to avoid that dreaded 7.55 am statement of “We have cooking today. Do you have …?”). The necessity to access computer software and the internet in order to complete some assignments also brings with it some supervisory issues. Again, another thing to add to the many homework challenges.

A quote that has stuck with me recently is, “The trouble with being a parent is that by the time you are experienced, you are unemployed.” If you, like many of us, continue to be particularly challenged in the area of homework, then help is at hand! I run Homework Centre in J2 Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, with assistance also available during the breaks at school. Study space, access to computers and other reference materials, and support and assistance as required is provided. We know that many children are natural procrastinators, but a regular firm schedule of homework assistance could well build those organisational and responsible skills so needed in all areas of life. If you are interested in having your child attend Homework Centre, please encourage them to see me for a note which will cover them for the 2016 school year.

A quote that has stuck with me recently is, “The trouble with being a parent is that by the time you are experienced, you are unemployed.” If you, like many of us, continue to be particularly challenged in the area of homework, then help is at hand! I run Homework Centre in J2 Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, with assistance also available during the breaks at school. Study space, access to computers and other reference materials, and support and assistance as required is provided. We know that many children are natural procrastinators, but a regular firm schedule of homework assistance could well build those organisational and responsible skills so needed in all areas of life. If you are interested in having your child attend Homework Centre, please encourage them to see me for a note which will cover them for the 2016 school year.

———

**Women’s & Girls’ Rugby League Gala Day**

*20 February 2016*

Chinchilla Rugby League Oval

8.30 am - 12.00 pm

Skills and drills sessions, healthy lifestyle workshop and non-competitive games

No experience necessary

RSVP by 18 February to Trish (0456 914 835) or Wendy (0488 574 915)

———

**Career Paths**

With Guidance Officer

Mrs Carol Schultz

The University of Queensland, Rural Clinical School, Toowoomba once again invites all Year 11 students who intend to pursue a career as a Medical Doctor to apply to participate in the Student Work Experience Program ‘A Day in Medicine.’ The University of Queensland will be running three, full day workshops again this year on the following dates: 27 April, 8 June and 17 August 2016. Placements are limited. An application form can be obtained from the School Guidance Officer, Mrs Carol Schultz.

Chinchilla Tafe would like to advise that they have the following hospitality short courses coming up:

- Responsible Service of Alcohol — 29 February
- Responsible Management of Licensed Venues — 1 March

If interested, please don’t hesitate to contact the Chinchilla Tafe Campus on 4672 6400.

———

**What’s Happening...**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>February</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18-20</td>
<td>GSS Triathlon (13-19yo)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>SW Swimming (10-19yo)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>SW Basketball (12yo)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dance Troupe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>SW Soccer (15/19yo)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>SW Basketball (15/19yo)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Band Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>School Touch Football Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Dance Troupe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29-2</td>
<td>Year 12 Camp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

———

**Booked for Lunch**

See Miss Taylor in GSF1 for more information.

———

**Books for Lunch**

- **Title:** The Cuckoo’s Calling
- **Author:** Robert Galbraith (JK Rowling)
- **Genre:** Detective/Mystery
- **Difficulty:** Medium
- **Availability:** School library, town library, online
- **Rating:** 5 out of 5 apples

**What is the book about?**

Comoran Strike is a war veteran – wounded both physically and psychologically – and his life is in disarray. Along with his secretary, Robin, sent from the temporary agency, they investigate the death of a supermodel. The case gives him a financial lifeline, but it comes at a personal cost; the more he delves into the young model’s complex world, the darker things get and the closer he gets to terrible danger.

**Where and when is the book set?**

It is set in London in 2010.

**Did you enjoy the book?**

Yes.

Galbraith (JK Rowling in disguise) creates interesting characters and the development of these characters continues in the next books in the series. You, as the reader, become comfortable with them and enjoy their adventures.

**Comment on the protagonist and their plight?**

Strike and his side-kick — Robin — are interesting protagonists and their ups and downs throughout the book are gripping. This is a real page-turner!

**Comment on some of the book’s themes.**

There are a number of themes including the exploitation of individuals who are misunderstood by the society.

**Who would you recommend this book to?**

Senior students, adults or any good reader.

**Booked for Lunch runs fortnightly (Thursday, first break) and is open to staff and students alike. It’s a great way to meet new people and read new books, all while indulging over culinary delights.**

**Are you booked for lunch?**

See Miss Taylor in GSF1 for more information.
The sweltering heat last Wednesday did not hamper the spirits of attendees at the annual Inter-house Swimming Carnival. The competitive swimmers demonstrated incredible determination in the pool, supported by the chorus of cheers from their fellow teammates. Also, the new format for participation was run again this year, allowing all age groups to ‘get their feet wet’ and contribute to their teams’s points tally.

Congratulations to the overall winners, Evans House, who led from start to finish and amassed over 100 points more than second place. Their mixture of quality swimming and participation was a recipe for success. Congratulations, also, to the Bannister brothers who tore up the pool, breaking three records each. Great work, boys!

Thanks to all students, parents and teachers who helped make the day an enjoyable one for everyone involved.

Mr Joshua Wolski
Carnival Convenor

Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Evans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Wheeler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Atkins</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Age Champions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Keegan Sutcliffe</td>
<td>Tahlia Evans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Patterson Bannister</td>
<td>Poppy Tuohy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Reece Mitchell</td>
<td>Breanna Collins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Matt Hart</td>
<td>Danielle Olsen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Tom Bannister</td>
<td>Brooke Carnellor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Ryan Olsen</td>
<td>Shannez Chown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>