Last week on Wednesday I received a phone call offering the amazing opportunity to attend the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) in January, 2017! This is a very prestigious 12-day residential camp-hosted in Canberra—for only 300 students selected throughout Australia and other participating countries. Aiming to extend participants’ understanding and application of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM), as well as nurture leadership, the National Youth Science Forum is truly a once in a lifetime experience. I am so grateful for exposure to such an opportunity and elated to have discovered that living in a small, close-knit community has not limited my ability to participate on a world-wide stage.

The application process, although nerve-racking, provided me with skills I will utilise later on. My Expression of Interest was followed by an interview with Mr Etheridge and Mr Beasley from Chinchilla Rotary, and then finally District Selections. Here, a group of 30 students (predominantly from Brisbane) were immersed in judged activities, including team games, science and personality interviews and impromptu speeches.

As part of fundraising for the NYSF, I am hosting a movie premiere for Captain Fantastic in Week 2, on Friday 14 October, beginning at 7.30pm. Tickets are $20 (including food and drink) and are available from Allen’s Mensland, the Chinchilla Cinema and Jan’s Country Kitchen. I would absolutely love to see as many people there as possible, so please buy a ticket! I strongly encourage the 2017 Year 11s to apply for the NYSF – you never know where it may take you!

Isabelle Jurss

What’s Happening...

October
7  Neon Night
13  Evening with The Arts
17  Student Free Day
18  Year 6 into 7 Enrolment Information Evening
20  Interact Trivia for Tuition
25  Presentation Evening
27  Think the Drink (Year 10)

November
7-17 2017 Year 7 Enrolment Interviews
18  Year 12 Final Day
19  Valedictory Ceremony
21  Year 12 Formal
25  P&C Meeting
25  Year 10/11 Final Day
29  Year 6 Orientation Day

December
9  Final Day Term 4

January 2017
23  School Resumes

Families and friends are warmly invited to attend CHINCHILLA STATE HIGH SCHOOL’S Presentation Evening

7:00 PM TUESDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2016 CHINCHILLA STATE HIGH SCHOOL HALL

This is an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the outstanding talents and achievements of our students in all areas of school life.

A plate of food for supper would be appreciated. All welcome!
Our Goal Is: Every Staff Member Succeeding (So That Every Student Can Succeed)

Great learning opportunities are on offer in our school every day.

Welcome to Term 4

This term promises many great opportunities for our students to continue their learning journey with our committed staff. Term 4 often brings additional distractions, with some students in each grade getting distracted by the idea of it being the ‘last term’ and being ‘nearly finished for the year’. My recommendation for all students, staff and families is that we all continue to press on for the full duration of the term, with the mindset that ‘I have ‘X’ number of days to make a difference’. Learning to finish the job right through to the end is a key life skill that will hold students in great stead in the future.

Our school’s core business is striving to get the best possible results for all of our students through high-quality teaching and learning every day. Thank you to everyone within our school community (students, families and staff) for your everyday commitment and support. Our school will continue to reward students achieving high levels for effort and behaviour through our Schoolwide Positive Behaviour for Learning Program.

Staffing News

Congratulations to the following staff on their recent weddings in the holidays: Mr and Mrs Lachlan and Kellie McKensey (nee Holmes), and Mrs Ellissa McCullough (nee Sempf) and Mr John McCullough. We wish both of these couples a very long, healthy and happy future. Special congratulations to Mr and Mrs Steven and Vicki Bock (nee Savage) on the safe arrival of their daughter Emily Aria Bock.

Vandalism and Break-Ins

It is very frustrating to report that the school suffered more senseless vandalism and break-ins on the first weekend of the holidays. This type of behaviour continues to occur at our school, with staffrooms and classrooms being targeted all too frequently. Unfortunately, the money used to repair the damage and theft of resources often has to be drawn from funds that have been allocated to improve our facilities and learning environments for our students. Community members who notice suspicious activity or people within our school out of hours are asked to contact the local Police. Thank you for your support.

Expectations for Students

- Be polite and respectful to staff, visitors, other students and self.
- Be safe in your choices and actions (in all aspects of school life)
- Be here every school day
- Be focused on learning and doing your best
- Be positive and responsible and meet your commitments

Our ‘TEAM’ Core Values:

Together – Empowering our community
Excellence – Being the best you can be
Acceptance – Embracing diversity
Motivation – Striving for success

Neon Night Fun Run

This Friday evening the school will host the Neon Night Fun Run on the school oval. This is the P&C Association’s main fundraiser for this year and I hope that lots of teams from the community will take the opportunity to get involved in this fun family event.

Facilities Update

The project of installing lighting at the school Netball Courts is nearly complete. It was great to see this week’s Tuesday night fixtures taking place under lights without the noise of generators in the background. Congratulations to the Chinchilla Netball Association on their success in accessing a generous grant from QGC to complete these works. Thank you QGC for supporting local clubs. Our school is really proud of our partnership with the Chinchilla Netball Association. On behalf of the school community, I would like to wish the Netball Association and all of the players all the very best for the remainder of the season. Thank you to all of our supportive community.

Kind regards
Scott Rowan

A Quick Quote:
“The difficulty lies not so much in developing new ideas as in escaping old ones.”
John Maynard Keynes

SCORE with Reading

All students are currently learning a SCORE approach to the reading requirements of their subjects. At Chinchilla State High School we know that Literacy - in particular reading - is imperative for every student to achieve in all subject areas. SCORE is an acronym for an approach which teaches students a process of attacking a text, with steps for BEFORE, DURING and AFTER reading. We are all aiming for our readers to achieve independent success with the texts they need to read, and SCORE is a way of building the necessary skills for that success.
9-15 October 2016
Mental Health Week 2016 is a chance to reflect on mental health and take some positive steps to highlight the importance of mental well-being for yourself and others.

What is Mental Health?
It’s an expression we use every day, but the term ‘mental health’ is frequently misunderstood. According to the World Health Organisation, mental health is, “A state of well-being in which every individual realises his or her own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to her or his community.”

“Mental health is about wellness rather than illness.”

The Benefits of Staying Well
Research shows that high levels of mental health are associated with increased learning, creativity and productivity, more pro-social behaviour and positive social relationships, and with improved physical health. In contrast, mental health conditions can cause distress and impact on day-to-day functioning and relationships.

It’s important to remember that mental health is complex. The fact that someone is not experiencing a mental health condition doesn’t necessarily mean their mental health is flourishing. Likewise, it’s possible to be diagnosed with a mental health condition while feeling well in many aspects of life. Ultimately, mental health is about being cognitively, emotionally and socially healthy – the way we think, feel and develop relationships. (Please visit Beyond Blue for more information- https://www.beyondblue.org.au/the-facts/what-is-mental-health).

What is Headspace?
Headspace is the National Youth Mental Health Foundation providing early intervention mental health services to 12-25 year olds, along with assistance in promoting young people’s wellbeing. Information and services for young people, their families and friends, as well as health professionals, can be accessed through headspace - https://www.headspace.org.au/

Did You Know?
Research shows that one in four young people have experienced a mental health issue in the past 12 months. This is a higher prevalence than all other age groups. Research also shows that 75 per cent of mental health issues emerge before the age of 25. By treating these issues early and providing a holistic model of support, the risk of them developing into more serious problems is greatly decreased.

There’s a big stigma around getting help for mental health issues. It’s usually invisible, but now headspace has brought it to life as The Big Stigma. And they’re calling on all Aussies to help tear it down. Visit The Big Stigma on the Headspace website. (Information sourced from headspace.org.au)

A Message From Your School Chaplain
Jono Buchanan

Food for Thought
Each day we fill our minds with new things through the movies and TV programs that we watch, the books and magazines that we read and the music that we listen to. Please don’t underestimate the effect that choices in these areas of our lives can have.

Think of your mind as being a container. You can decide what to fill it with, but remember this; if you fill a container with dirt, then dirt is all that will come out of it.

What are you filling the containers of your mind with?

Free workshop for parents & carers of young people on the autism spectrum!
Chinchilla - 2 November
Register your place:

Positive partnerships.com.au

BBQ
Drinks
Raffles

TONIGHT!

Year 7 Enrolment Dates:

Enrolment Information Evening: Tuesday 18 October 6.00pm, K Block
Enrolment packs will be distributed at this night
Enrolment Meetings start: Monday 7 November
Submit completed Enrolment pack
Year 6 Orientation Day: Tuesday 29 November

Nomination fees:
Teams of 4
High School Students/Adult - $50
Primary School Students/Families with Children - $30

Nomination forms available at the High School office OR www.chinchilshs.eq.edu.au OR pandc@chinchilshs.eq.edu.au
For more information contact Tanya Errey on 0499 045 611
How Can I Get My Teenager To Go To School?

Did you know?
Poor attendance may be associated with future unemployment, criminal activity, substance abuse, and poorer health and life expectancy.

What You Can Do

- Be sure to set a good example – how you meet your commitments impacts on how they will meet theirs.
- Talk to your teenager. What are their feelings about school? What interests them at school? Are there any difficult situations? It helps if you open these discussions in a relaxed way so that your teenager knows you are demonstrating concern, not authority.
- Try to be aware of your teenager’s social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students without many friends can feel isolated.

Remember...
You can talk with school staff (such as the Teacher, Year Level Coordinator, Deputy Principal or Principal) to find out what assistance they can provide to keep your teenager attending and engaged.

Hitting Targets

During testing conditions in the first weekend of the school holidays, three Chinchilla State High Students - Breanna, Lachlan and Crawford - competed in Clay Target Shooting events at the three-day Australasian Police and Services Championship. All three competed well, with Crawford achieving two first places, one second place and fourth overall in the Open Handicap.

The three students also competed on their home ground during the last weekend of the holidays, in the Chinchilla Clay Target two-day annual shoot. Breanna shot an amazing 47/50 in the Double Barrel event, Lachlan took out third in the Deauville Doubles and Crawford was the ‘C’ Grade High Gun Champion.

They all conducted themselves at both events with great sportsmanship and endurance and are hoping to represent Chinchilla State High School next year in the inter-school competition. Students interested in representing the school next year in clay target shooting can register their interest with Mrs Sharyn Fendley in E Block.