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Issue 16

13 September 2018

What's Happening

September

- 15 SW Track and Field Training Camp
- 17 P&C Meeting
- 20 RYDER Program
- 21 Last Day Term 3

October

- 8 First Day Term 4
- 11-14 All Schools Touch Competition
- 17 Year 7/10 Vaccinations
- 18 Year 11 Careers Tour
- 22 Student Free Day

P&C Meeting (5.30pm)

- 25 Year 10 Aquaponics Excursion

November

- 1 Presentation Evening



Competitors Conquer Wind Currents and Clouds at South West Track and Field Trials

Windy weather was an added competitor for our athletes when they ran, jumped or threw through the two days of South West Track and Field trials on Thursday 6 and Friday 7 September.



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From the Principal

We are a Positive Behaviour for Learning School

Our School Values that drive our daily behaviour expectations (for all of our school community) are:

- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be Safe

Dear Parents, students, staff and community supporters

It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of Week 9 of Term 3. There is still plenty of important teaching and learning work this term that will go right up until 3.05pm next Friday.

Please encourage all students to 'make every day count' by attending every day and also by doing their very best.

Staffing News

- Congratulations to Mrs Renee Richards who has been appointed to the Acting Head of Department Technology for three days per week whilst Mrs Dorries works in the Acting Deputy Principal role.
- Best wishes to our Year 9 Co-ordinator, Mrs Amber Byrne, who commences her Maternity Leave in Term 4. We wish Mrs Byrne and her husband Nick all the very best in their preparations for their first child.
- Best wishes to one of our Technology teachers, Mr Dustin Davis, who will be taking some leave at the start of Term 4 to share some quality time with his family around the arrival of baby number two. We wish the Davis family all the very best.
- Our very best wishes to our hard-working Facilities Officer, Mr Denver Kanowski, who is taking Long Service Leave in Term 4. We hope that he enjoys many exciting adventures during his time on Leave.

Year 6 in to Year 7 Parent Information Afternoon

Sincere thanks to the parents and students who were able to attend our recent Year 6 into Year 7 Information Afternoon. It was really pleasing to see strong numbers of future students and their families. At this point in time we are expecting approximately 120 Year 7 students in 2019 and it is great that the connection between our school and these students and their families has commenced.

The next steps in the 'transition to high school process' will be in Term 4 when the students and parents will be engaged in enrolment Interviews and Transition Days in early December. Any parents with questions relating to Year 6 into Year 7 transition should contact our Acting Junior Secondary Head of Department, Miss Samantha Taylor.

Year 12 Queensland Core Skills Tests

Congratulations to the Year 12 students who completed the Queensland Core Skills (QCS) Tests last week. The tests proceeded smoothly and we look forward to hearing positive results later in the year. Sincere thanks to our community representatives, Mrs Mary Etheridge and Mrs Raelene Hilton for their support throughout the QCS Tests process.

I would like to acknowledge that this can be quite an intense period of time for Year 12 students, with the combination of the QCS Tests and end of Term 3 assessment. Sincere thanks to supportive parents who may have been experiencing a more intense dynamic from the students at home as they work their way through what can be quite a challenging time.

Queensland Symphony Orchestra Chinchilla Visit

Congratulations to our local Instrumental Music students who were able to participate in this experience this week. Whilst the timing of the visit tends to coincide with our end of term assessment time, we are still very grateful to the Queensland Symphony Orchestra for extending this excellent opportunity for our students. Hopefully our community members enjoyed the concert on Thursday evening.

South West Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to all of the students who represented our school and district at the South West Athletics Carnival held in St George last Thursday and Friday.

Queensland State Schools Championships for 12 Years Girls Rugby League in Chinchilla

A reminder that our school, and region, are hosting the 12yrs Girls Rugby League Championships at Bulldog Park next week from 20-23 September. We will have a team of staff and students who will be working at this carnival to ensure that it is a big success. We are anticipating that there will be over 400 guests visiting our town and local areas throughout the carnival and we hope that local businesses will benefit from bringing this event to town.

Community members are invited to the Opening Ceremony that will commence at 8.15 am on Thursday 20 September followed by the first game which will feature the South West team.

To stay informed about our school, please remember that you can access the **school calendar on the school website or via the QSchools App.**

Sincere thanks again to all of our families and interested community members for their support of our students, staff and school. With this being the last Newsletter for this term, I would like to wish all of the students, parents and staff, all the very best for a safe and enjoyable holiday break.

*Kind regards,
Mr Scott Rowan*

A Quick Quote:

"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents."

Emilie Buchwald



Drones Take Off at Chinchilla SHS

On Thursday, our top Year 8 and 9 Science students had the opportunity to participate in an exciting drone coding and flying workshop.

Michael from STEM Punks shared his expertise with two groups of budding coders, teaching students aspects of block coding and user interface functionality. Students were presented a set of challenges (which everyone chose to accept), including picking up 'hotcakes' and dropping them to a given target before returning the drone to its original position. After several nail-biting near collisions and the loss of some precious cargo, expert droners emerged to claim their victory.

No doubt this unique and fun-filled opportunity has inspired a group of future coding superstars who are ready to launch into this cutting edge field.

Miss Samantha Taylor
Acting Junior Secondary Head of Department



Competitors Conquer Wind Currents and Clouds at South West Track and Field Trials *(continued from page 1)*

Although there was not as many PBs (personal bests) as usual at this level, everyone who competed did the best they could under the conditions. Athletes needed to take into consideration to throw the Discus and Javelin flatter or higher depending on the wind direction. The High Jump mats were also moved around so the bar was less likely to fall off during an athlete's run up to it. Running into a head wind was tough, but a tail wind was appreciated. A gust of wind nearly stopped one of our athletes in their run up for Long Jump but they soldiered on though. I was also proud to witness, and hear staff from other districts commenting on, Chinchilla State High School students demonstrating exemplary sportsmanship throughout the carnival. Well done.

Many students received a first, second or third in their event, with several athletes receiving numerous placings. Alyssa Cox was crowned 15 years girls South West Champion after winning seven events! Savanna Evans was crowned 16 years girls South West Champion after placing in five events.

An event called the "Fastest in the West", where each age winner of the 100m and the next three fastest are selected to run the race, was also ran. Alyssa Cox was the fastest female and Tomas Watson the second fastest male in the West. Both were super quick.

The athletes had to make a certain time, height or length to qualify to make the South West team to compete at the State Championships.

The 10-12 years State Championships are held in Cairns on 19-20 October and the students that have been selected are:

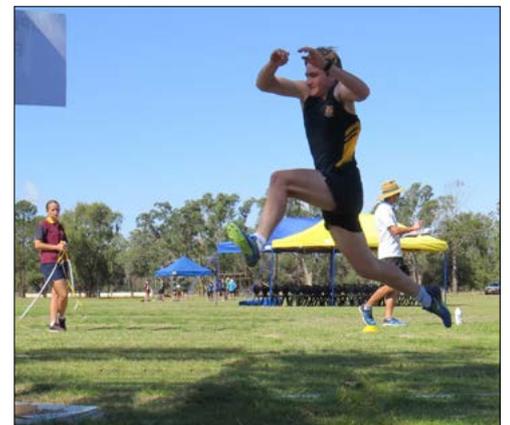
Athlete	Event
Sophie Bender	100m, 200m, Relay
Brock Hammermeister	100m, 200m, Relay
Will Horner	100m, Relay

13-19 years State Championships will be in Brisbane on the 25-28 October and the students that have been selected are:

Athlete	Event
Alyssa Cox	100m, 200m, 400m, Long Jump, Triple Jump
Zac Cross	100m, 200m
Savanna Evans	100m
Jordan Fox	100m
Jack Horswood	Discus
Shauna Sorrell	Discus
Tomas Watson	100m, 200m, Long Jump, Triple Jump

For the full results from the carnival go to the South West School Sport website (<https://southwestschoolsport.eq.edu.au/Calendarandnews/News/Pages/2018-SWSS-Athletics-Results.aspx>)

Mrs Jacinta Mead
HPE Teacher



R U OK? DAY™

A conversation could change a life.

Thursday 13 September 2018

R U OK? Day is a national day of action in September dedicated to reminding people to ask family, friends and colleagues the question, "R U OK?", in a meaningful way, because connecting regularly and meaningfully is one thing everyone can do to make a difference to anyone who might be struggling.

This week, Chinchilla State High School will be raising awareness for this initiative with activities throughout the week in Pastoral Care classes, assembly and at Thursday's Brekky Club. As you know, every teacher's job incorporates student health and wellbeing and often they are the first point of contact for students and families. Teachers work very closely with Year Coordinators for each year level whose primary role is supporting students in their health and wellbeing and liaising with teachers and parents. In addition to this, we have the school wellbeing team who oversee and support the wellbeing of the whole school. The wellbeing team consists of: the Guidance Officer, Mrs Sinead Roff; the Head of Student Services, Mrs Anne Cardillo; the School-Based Youth Health Nurse, Mrs Colleen Forde; the Youth Support Coordinator, Mrs Julie Rex; the School Chaplain, Miss Lilyan Flett; Beyond the Broncos Liaison Officer, Ms Amy Young; as well as our Deputy Principals and Principal.

You don't need to be an expert, just a good friend and a great listener! So, if you notice someone who might be struggling, start a conversation. Conversations need to happen every day. Encourage more people to ask R U OK? in your school, workplace or community and refer any concerns you have to any support person in the school.

Four simple steps... You've got what it takes!



1. Ask



2. Listen



3. Encourage action



4. Check in

HELP START CONVERSATIONS EVERY DAY



NAPLAN Review

The Queensland Government is undertaking a review of NAPLAN in the Queensland context, to better understand the impacts NAPLAN is having on learning and teaching within the state.

The first stage of the Review, conducted in June 2018, focused on consultation with parents.

The second stage is now underway, with consultation extending to students, teachers, principals and other key education stakeholders across Queensland.

Queensland students in years 3 to 10 are now invited to provide feedback on their experiences with NAPLAN, via an online survey. Students wishing to participate will require the consent of a parent or carer, who can assist with completing the survey at home.

The survey link is available at: <https://survey.isia.com.au/s3/2018Na pRevStudent>

This project has received ethical clearance from both the Australian Catholic University and the Department of Education. Further information on the student survey and the Review are provided within the survey link.

FORTNIGHTLY HEALTH FACT



What a great way to start a day – pancakes and a chat. The place was decked out with yellow balloons and posters as over 100 pancakes were prepared by the Breakfast Club for students and staff to recognise R U OK? Day.

Keen students were also able to put their artistic talents to the test by creating chalk murals on the concrete at breakfast time. The day's activities will also provide an opportunity for students to participate in a Wellbeing Team scavenger hunt and an art competition with the theme of 'Community, Connections and Communications'.

It was great to see students and staff interacting and incorporating the philosophy of R U OK? Day. Let's continue this practise every day!

*Mrs Colleen Forde
School Based Youth Health Nurse*