



HAWK CHAT

HARRISTOWN STATE HIGH SCHOOL



Edition No. 11

15 May 2009

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families

This week I attended a Southern Vale cluster meeting. The schools who make up our cluster include: Bunker's Hill, Cambooya, Clifford Park Special School, Darling Heights, Drayton, Glenvale, Harristown, Newtown, Ramsay, Vale View, Wellcamp and Wyreema State Schools. Over the last couple of years we have been working hard to establish closer ties with our cluster schools through curriculum programs, outreach programs and running specialised short courses in different learning areas. We do this to help the many primary school students make an easy transition to high school but also to enrich their learning experiences while still undertaking their primary education. The types of programs we are offering are in our specialised areas of Industrial Skills, The Arts, Extension English and Maths, Science and ICT. In some of these programs, primary students work with our Year 8 and 9 students. I have also been visiting cluster school staff meetings to share about the strategic direction of Harristown.

Although we are providing these activities for many of our local primary school students, our school remains focused on many rich experiences for our own students. Currently, the sport and arts programs are particularly busy with competitions and performances. Rock Eisteddfod preparation is in full swing with rehearsals, scene and prop preparation and competition organisation.

These experiences enrich the learning program we have at Harristown and help students develop process and skills used in learning. They also teach students important lessons about life. This co-curricula program requires significant commitment by staff, students and parents. Thank you for your ongoing support to our whole school programs.

Until next week,

Warm regards

Regan Neumann, Executive Principal

QUOTE OF THE WEEK (contributed by Ms Jones)

"Give thy thoughts no tongue, Not any unproportioned thought its act."

W. Shakespeare

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 18	Yr 8 & Yr 10 Subject Selection Evenings
May 18 - 22	Chaplaincy Week
May 25 - 29	Academy Testing Week
June 2	P & C Meeting
June 4	Yr 8 Gardasil & Chicken Pox Injections
June 8	Queens Birthday Holiday
June 9 - 19	Yr 10, 11 & 12 Exam Block
June 22	Year 9 Challenge Dherwain & Barang
June 23 & 24	QCS Practice Test
June 23	Year 8 Athletics Day
June 24	Year 9 Challenge Day Balkuin & Bonda

MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCIAL

What: Middle School Social (Years 8, 9 & 10)

Date: Tuesday, 26 May

Venue: HSHS Auditorium

Time: 6:00-8:00pm (doors will open at 5:45pm).
The social is a lock-in event. Parents/guardians must drop students off at the auditorium between 5:45 and 6pm. Parents/guardians must collect their student from the door at 8pm. Students WILL NOT be allowed to walk home or meet parents down the street.

Cost: \$5.00. Tickets can be purchased from the P&C shop prior to the evening. Tickets will also be on sale at the door.

Theme: Black and white. Students are asked to come dressed in black and white outfits of their choice. Clothing must be appropriate (no bare midriffs, etc). Be as creative as you like!

The Black and White Social will be a fun evening full of dancing, games and prizes. We look forward to seeing all of the Year 8's, 9's and 10's at this semester's social event. If you have any further questions regarding the event, please contact your student's Year Coordinator for more information (Year 8 - Mr Peter Dayus, Year 9 - Miss Megan Beames, Year 10 - Mrs Sue Burns).



ACCELERATED ACADEMIES INTAKE 2009

In semester two, an exciting new venture will commence at Harristown High for capable and highly motivated Year 8 students. Any Year 8 student is invited to apply for a position in our Accelerated Academic Academy or our Accelerated Industrial Skills Academy.

Our aim is that Accelerated *Academic* students will complete the traditional 1 - 10 syllabus in each of the core areas of English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and ICTs by the end of Year 9. In Year 10, these students will be expected to enrol in some Senior subjects which may then be completed by the end of Year 11. Students who have completed any Senior subjects by the end of Year 11 will then be expected to enrol in at least one first year university subject.

Our aim is that Accelerated *Industrial Skills* students will complete the traditional 1 - 10 syllabus in each of the core areas (as above) by the end of Year 10. In second semester Year 8 and through Year 9, these students will also undergo intensive basic skilling programs in engineering and construction skills. During Years 9 and 10, these students will be expected to achieve a Certificate 1 in their preferred engineering or construction strand. Through Years 10, 11 and 12, these students will be expected to complete Certificate 3 in their preferred strand through a school based apprenticeship. At the same time, these students will continue to study English, Mathematics and some other elective subjects at an appropriate level.

In order to facilitate student success in this venture, Harristown High is actively pursuing and securing university and industry partnerships to cater for the needs and aspirations of these students and to provide realistic pathways.

There will be information published shortly about information nights to be held during term two and about selection processes. Parents, if you believe that your son or daughter has the necessary abilities, drive and motivation to be selected for either academy, then please encourage them to collect an application form from Mr J Williams in D 24.

For more information contact: Jon Williams

SCHOOL COUNCIL - There are currently TWO vacant parent representative positions for the School Council.

The objective of the School Council is to improve learning outcomes by exercising specified functions for guiding the broad strategic direction of the school. The successful nominees will be required to attend four meetings (one per term) during the school year. These positions are for a two year term.

Parents are asked to nominate to become a parent representative by completing a nomination form and a Schedule 1 form (pertaining to indictable offences) which can be obtained from the P & C Shop. To arrange to have the forms mailed out to you please call the shop on 46368714.

Nominations close 12 June 2009 at 4.00 pm

HELPING WITH SPELLING

.....some ways to learn those words!!!

Some helpful tips for parents to help their children with spelling at home.



All students at Harristown State High School have spelling every week. For Year 8 and 9 students, teachers have given 3 words per week per subject to learn. Year 10, 11 and 12 students have been given 5 words per week per subject. Therefore students always have spelling for homework to learn.

There are many ways to learn spelling. Children need to learn which one works best for them.

The one thing these different methods of learning spelling have in common is that they all involveWriting!

Spelling is only used in writing, so children must practise the words in writing.

To learn spelling, children need to learn the:

- Look of the word
- Sound of the word
- Meaning of the word
- Feel and the rhythm of the word.

Learning spelling needs practise. Remember practice makes perfect and practice makes permanent.

Tips will follow in future Hawk Chats.

Yvonne Bidgood HOD - ELT

MUSIC: TO NOTE!

The following information is from the Australian Children's Music Foundation.

- # Are you, or do you know, a budding young songwriter?
- # This competition has over \$30,000 IN PRIZES
- # WIN musical equipment and tuition for you and your school PLUS ...

Have the chance to:

- Perform at the Sydney Festival.
- Have the Casio Brothers and Demilition B-Girl (Demi from 'So You Think You Can Dance' 2008) perform at your school.
- Have two of your songs professionally recorded in a studio with a top Australian Producer.
- Tickets to see hot artists.
- **CLOSING DATE 25 SEPTEMBER. FOR MORE INFO GO TO www.acmf.com.au**

CHAPLAINCY WEEK 17th - 21st May 09

Chaplaincy plays an important role in the Harristown school community providing students, their families, staff, and the wider school community with opportunities for support and care in everyday life.

Here are some examples of times when you may connect with Lorinda our school Chaplain ...

- If you need to talk to someone about any personal issues or relationship struggles that you may be facing at home or school
- To get involved in programs and activities run by the Chaplaincy service
- If you'd just like to hang out at breaks and relax for a while connecting with other students
- If you are experiencing the loss of a loved one
- If you have questions about faith issues
- If you'd like to know more about school holiday camps or weekend activities such as youth groups etc run by local community groups & SU QLD
- If you are new at school and need a bit of help settling in and finding your way around



The Chaplaincy service compliments existing support services and assists in fostering a positive social and relational culture, and a supportive caring student environment at Harristown. Our chaplain works four days a week and her office is in the Blue Gym Complex - Q43.

Chaplaincy Week Activities

- THURS:

- **SYATP** (See you at the Pole) > A Student lead prayer initiative at school for the school community. Join with other interested students for Breakfast and Prayer on **THURS morning 8.15-8.45am**. Meet at the school flagpole outside the main administration block behind hall.
- Help raise funds for our Chaplaincy service by purchasing Fairy Floss and Butter Popcorn at both breaks Thurs under E block near Year 12 area. Cost \$3

- FRI:

- Lunchtime Activities on Top Oval at **both breaks** ... Old School Games like tug of war, sack races, 3 legged races, tunnel ball etc... Stacks of fun!

Harristown SHS Chaplaincy service is totally funded by individuals, local churches, community groups and local businesses and we do not currently receive any government funding. If you would like to make a contribution to this valuable school support service please make it through the school P & C shop or by obtaining a chaplaincy brochure from school administration which outlines the relevant details. Your support is appreciated to continue this great service to the school community now and into the future.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

* SATs available: **Nb: All enquiries are to be made through Ms Matheson or Trish Hamlin in the Vocational Education Office, D011, as the businesses do not want to be contacted directly.**

DGT = Downs Group Training

GWES= Golden West Employment Solutions

Apprenticeships

Cert III Bakery	Woolworths
Cert III Butchery	Woolworths
Cert III Hospitality	DGT
Cert III Hospitality	SSS BBQ Barn
Cert III Hospitality	The Lazy Fisherman
Cert III Painting & Decorating	DGT
Cert III Plastering	DGT

Traineeships

Cert III Business Administration	Sarina Russo
Cert III Childrens Services	Sarina Russo
Cert III Business	GWES
Cert II Hospitality (FOH)	The Coffee House
Cert II Retail	Red Rooster
Cert II Retail	Woolworths
Cert II Retail	GWES
Cert II Retail	Lazy Fisherman
Cert III Warehousing	GWES

INDUSTRIAL ACTION UPDATE

Education Queensland is committed to keeping parents informed of the latest teacher strike information.

As you are aware, many state school teachers will take part in industrial action next Tuesday 19 May, however there will be no formal instruction for students at school on that day.

Adult supervision will be provided at school for children whose families cannot provide alternative care on Tuesday 19 May.

The safety of students remains a priority during strike action.

Negotiations are continuing between the Queensland Government and the Queensland Teachers' Union over a new enterprise bargaining agreement, in an attempt to avert industrial action.

The Queensland Government is offering all state school teachers a 12.5% salary increase over three years.

I will keep you informed of any changes.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you have any inquiries about our school's arrangements for the day.

Yours sincerely

Education Queensland

INTERSCHOOL SPORT

The hawks have made a great start to the Term 2 fixtures recording 34 wins from their opening 42 games.

The boys remain undefeated in the Soccer, Rugby League and Hockey in all age groups with our Junior Indoor cricket team suffering a narrow loss this week going down by 11 runs to Lockyer District State High School.

The girls have started with a mixed bag of results over the opening two weeks coming up against stiff competition from Fairholme College in the second week of fixtures. Our year 8, 9 and 10 Netball are still to taste defeat this term.

A reminder to all our students, that when you are playing Interschool sport you are not only representing yourself but the entire school community. Hawks play to win but in doing so display good sportsmanship, manners and respect to our opponents and officials.

Cross Country - DHERWAIN DOMINATION CONTINUES

At our recent Inter-house Cross Country Carnival over 350 hawks travelled to the Toowoomba Show Grounds in an attempt to claim the crown of Harristown SHS Champions. While all houses were well represented no one was able to stop the Dherwain Juggernaut that has now claimed 8 consecutive interhouse sporting carnivals.

Boys Overall Results

1 st	Dherwain	319
2 nd	Bonda	262
3 rd	Balkuin	239
4 th	Barang	194

Girls Overall Results

1 st	Dherwain	280
2 nd	Bonda	251
3 rd	Balkuin	242
4 th	Barang	240

Overall Results

1 st	Dherwain	599
2 nd	Bonda	513
3 rd	Balkuin	481
4 th	Barang	434

Age Champions

Boys	14yrs Boys	15yrs Boys	16yrs Boys	19yrs Boys
Jacob Bigby	Kevin Platz	Damien Saunders	Nic Ward-Pearson	Shaun McIntyre
Jake Elton	Jake Thompson	Jaiden Reynolds	Michael Ndjekompte	Hamish Donovan
Jack Weribone	Jake Gill	Jeffery O'Brien	Josh Waters	Cory Capern

Rugby League

Arrive Alive

The A1 team have commenced their quest to capture the elusive South West Arrive Alive trophy with wins against Toowoomba State High School and St Josephs College. While both were tight games the boys are to be commended on the determination shown over the closing stages of both games (if only we could play with this intensity over the full 70 mins we would be a lot more comfortable on the score board.) The boys next game is against Concordia on Wednesday the 20 May.

Steve Renouf Cup

Our next game is against Wavell SHS scheduled for May 19th has been postponed due to the Industrial action being under taken from Education Queensland employees. The game will now be played at Brothers RLFC at 4:00pm June 23rd. It would be great for the boys to play in front of a supportive home crowd. All parents and friends are welcome to come out and support the boys.

Hockey - NAB Cup

Our open girls made a flying start to the State Wide NAB Cup Hockey tournament on Wednesday 29th April. The Girls came up against the Glennie School and were convincing winners running out 14-0 winners.

The girls will now take on Downlands College in the second round. The game is to be played on June 3rd at Clyde Park commencing at 3:15pm. Good luck girls.

Darling Downs Representatives

The third round of Darling Downs trials were held on April 28th

We would like to congratulate the following students on their selection in their chosen sport:

Boys Soccer

Nathan Stark
Keagan Sheridan
Chris Hewson
Lachlan Nielsen
Damien Saunders

Girls Soccer

Caitlin Barclay
Caitlyn Bowman
Nikeesha Hansen
Madalyn Hearne
Melony Baker
Amber Jennings

Girls Basketball

Bianca McMahan
Trinda Willshire
Holly McDonald
Mandy Midgley

Kelly Williams
Sammy McCleverty
Dominique Schefe
Jai Jackson

Best of luck guys in your quest for a coveted Maroon Jersey.

Until next week

Ian Brackstone
Sports Co-ordinator