Student Leaders 2012

Selection of the Student Executive for 2012 has now been completed. The successful Year 12 students who have accepted leadership roles have been selected by staff and student ballot and interview. As individuals they have shared their goals and plans with the selection committee. The task ahead is to work as a leadership team, sharing with each other, supporting each other and engaging the students of the school in many endeavours within the school and the wider school community.

Congratulations to all candidates who participated in the challenging selection process.

The Student Executive 2012

School Captains: Rosie Griffiths, Joshua Great
School Vice Captains: Jessie Henaway, André Le Feuvre
Indigenous Vice Captain: Amber Sutherland
Student Council Vice Captain: Caitlin Granshaw
Cultural Vice Captain: Adam Dudley
Community Service Vice Captain: Bridget Sloan
Sports Vice Captain: Kyle Taylor

As well, the Sports House Captains have been determined by student ballot. These eight students have three weeks to plan and prepare for the first interhouse competition - the swimming carnival scheduled for Friday 17 February.

Congratulations House Leaders for 2012

Banks Captains: Sharnah Barnes, Curtis Land
Cook Captains: Shae Cannon, Mitchell Parison
Macquarie Captains: Tynneale Narratone-Nelson, Kyle Taylor
Phillip Captains: Madison Magatelli, Jack Brock

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MUSICALS

Mary Poppins BRISBANE from January 2012
An Officer and a Gentleman SYDNEY from May 2012
Love Never Dies SYDNEY from January 2012

Contact Harvey World Travel Ayr to book your package!
For Bookings Contact Pierina, Timmone, Kirsten, Susan or Rosanne
or contact us now via Facebook!
Welcome to the 2012 school year at Ayr State High School. Firstly I would like to introduce myself. I am very honoured and excited to be the new Principal of Ayr State High School. I have been teaching for 17 years and in that time I have had the opportunity to work as Head of Department, Deputy Principal, Head of Campus of Thursday Island TAFE facility and most recently Head of Campus at Tagai State College, Thursday Island Secondary Campus. This has given me a wide range of experiences working with students in all areas and pathways of secondary education.

My commitment to this school is to provide strong and stable leadership which focuses on continued improvement across all areas of schooling to enable improved student outcomes for all students. My family and I are excited to be living in the Burdekin and we have been overwhelmed with the friendly way we have been welcomed into the community. The start of the 2012 school year has already been a great success for our school community. Our 2012 School Captain Josh Great represented our school at a national Science experience in Canberra which saw students from across Australia working with scientists and lecturers from the major universities in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland.

We also had our indigenous dance team “The Burdekin Crew” represent our school and the Burdekin region at the Australia Day celebrations in Sydney. I have received emails congratulating the group not only for their performance but for the way they presented themselves to the wider community. Well done to Josh and the Burdekin Crew and their support team!

Looking forward, attendance will be a key focus area for our school community this year. Research shows that poor attendance is one of the major factors contributing to low student achievement. It is important for students in all year levels to make sure that they are at school every day engaging with the excellent teachers at Ayr State High School.

If you have only have one day off per week that adds up to 40 days in a year, which equals eight weeks, and is almost a full term each year. This is a serious amount of missed time across the five years of Secondary school making it extremely difficult to successfully complete High School and then follow your personal career goals. So let’s make sure you are here every day, every lesson, learning.

It was great to see so many parents and students attend our Year 8 Laptop Information Evening on Tuesday. I encourage all parents to be actively involved in their children’s education. A fantastic way to do this is to come along and join our P&C committee. This is a great way to stay informed and provide input into the direction of our school.

The first P&C meeting of the year will be on Monday 6 February at 7.30 pm in the school’s Library. See you there. Yours in Education

Craig Whittred
Principal

Welcome to Ayr State High School
Our school acknowledges the Juru community as the first owners of this country. Today, they are still the custodians of the cultural heritage of this land. Further to this, our school acknowledges there are other Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and South Sea Island people who have lived, worked and contributed to the cultural heritage of our community.

The student executive, sports house captains, form class representatives and the student council will be invested with their badge of office on Thursday 9 February at 9.00 am.

The importance of student leadership will be acknowledged in this first formal assembly of 2012. The newly inducted leaders and their parents are invited to light refreshments after the ceremony.

Ayr High is 75 years old this year!
by Mrs Saskia Vollema-Creek

On the first of March, 1937, approximately 271 students marched from Ayr State School into Ayr High and began classes in the only building constructed, ‘A” Block. Since then the school has grown in size, number and reputation.

2012 sees the celebration of Ayr High’s Jubilee with a re-enactment of the march on Thursday 1 March from 8.25 am at Ayr State School. An Open Day on Saturday 5th May is also planned with a reunion dinner that night organised by the Reunion Dinner Committee steered by Mrs Helen Lingard. For further information email ayrhigh75@hotmail.com or phone 4783 3331.

After seeing old friends on Saturday, everyone then has the opportunity to make their own arrangements to meet the next day. Sunday ~ perhaps meet for breakfast or lunch somewhere and catch up on all the news. Local eateries will be advised and on standby, or you might like a picnic or bbq at Hutchings ~ make a day of it!! Ayr High has a rich fascinating history and currently we are seeking any forms of memorabilia such as old class photos, textbooks, school programs and uniforms. If you have anything of interest we would like to hear from you. You can either drop items of interest into the Office or contact Mrs Saskia Vollema-Creek (75th Jubilee organiser) on svoll4@eq.edu.au or the school at 47904 333.

Throughout the term, everyone will be kept posted of events through the school newsletter as well as the Ayr State High School 75th Anniversary 2012 Facebook page.

Ayr High in 1937

Issue No 1 - 2012 It’s not OK to be away Page 2
Monday 23rd January 2012 saw 100 eager new Year 8 students join our Ayr High family. They were capably assisted during the day by 40 LIP Leaders from the senior school. After a very hectic start and an information overload they appear to have adjusted extremely well and are settling into their new surroundings. For more details and some first day photos look for the Year 8 newsletter published on the alternate week to Ayring.

**Interhouse Swimming Carnival ... week 6!**

by Miss Courtney Carrigan, Sports Co-ordinator

Friday 17 February will see a carnival atmosphere prevail as the four sporting houses vie for honours in the Interhouse Swimming Carnival. The day begins with House skits and war-cries at school, followed by standard events at the pool and concludes with presentations back at school. For this day students are encouraged to dress in their house theme or their house colour. Students who are not competing will enjoy the carnival atmosphere, cheering and supporting their friends. Good luck to all.

**Music Support Meeting**

Monday 20 February 2012

7.30 pm, A 12

New Parents Welcome.

**P&C Meeting**

Monday 6 February 2012

7.00 pm, Resource Centre

**Absentee Hotline**

4790 4353

If your child is away either:
• phone the hotline
• text message or
• hand in a note on return

**Interschool Sport**

by Miss Courtney Carrigan, Sports Co-ordinator

The 2012 season of interschool sporting competition commences on Tuesday 7 February (week 3) with U15 and Open Netball and Rugby League. Positions in the school teams have been hotly contested with many students already keen to participate. Interschool Mixed Volleyball (U15 and Open teams) will be the next sport on the calendar. Selection trials and training will begin shortly with the first game scheduled for Monday 13 February (week 4).

The following North Queensland trials are scheduled for Term 1:

Cluster 1 (16/2) - Touch, Softball, Volleyball, Tennis
Cluster 2 (5/3) - Hockey, Football, Rugby League, Basketball
Cluster 3 (19/3) - Netball, Rugby Union, Golf, AFL, Squash

Students should keep an eye on the notices for further information closer to the trial dates or alternatively contact Miss Courtney Carrigan.

**Year 12 Camp**

Kinchant Dam Outdoor Education Centre

6 - 9 March 2012

Final payments due Friday 17 February 2012

Please refer to letters distributed to Year 12 students this week for further details, or phone Ms Deanne Ruge on 4790 4318.

**Gympie State High School Celebrates its Centenary**

Gympie State High, Queensland’s oldest high school, will celebrate its centenary from Friday to Sunday March 9 - 11, 2012. The planning committee wish to contact as many as possible of the thousands of students and hundreds of teachers who have passed through Gympie State High over 100 years. Contact details are:-

Email: info@gympieshs.eq.edu.au, Phone: Lee Francis (07) 5482 8530, Snail mail: Gympie State High School P&C, PO Box 22, Gympie, Qld 4570. Online registration and further information: www.gympieshs.eq.edu.au

Registration deadline for several events is February 24, 2012. An information pack covering aspects celebrations will be sent on request.

**Upcoming Events**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>6 Feb</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting (7.30 pm, Resource Centre)</td>
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<td>7 Feb</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival Nominations (2.30 pm)</td>
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<td>8 Feb</td>
<td>Interschool Rugby League/Netball (3.30 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Feb</td>
<td>Drama Festival Rehearsal (3 - 5 pm)</td>
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<td>10 Feb</td>
<td>Student Leader Induction Ceremony (9 - 9.45 am)</td>
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<td>13 Feb</td>
<td>Interschool Volleyball (3.30 pm)</td>
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<td>14 Feb</td>
<td>Interschool Rugby League/Netball (3.30 pm)</td>
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<td>15 Feb</td>
<td>Yr 8 /10 Vaccinations (9 am - 2 pm)</td>
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<td>17 Feb</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival (All day)</td>
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<td>20 Feb</td>
<td>Music Support Meeting (7.30 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Feb</td>
<td>Interschool Rugby League/Netball (3.30 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 Feb</td>
<td>Interschool Volleyball (3.30 pm)</td>
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<td>28 Feb</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Interschool Rugby League/Netball (3.30 pm)</td>
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Take-Home Laptop Update

by Mrs Vicki Toohey, HOD - Business IT & Humanities

It is terrific to see so many students using their laptops in classes in the first week back at school. Some students have been using their laptops for all sorts of purposes over the vacation period - and enjoying the experience. There are a few who have had some difficulties and have been issued a ‘hot swap’ device until the problem is resolved.

Some reminders to parents and students about their responsibilities and obligations when participating in the take-home option:

- Students are expected to bring the laptop to school every day, fully charged.
- Students must backup their own data, either on the school’s server or on an external device.
- Passwords are not to be shared with other students or teachers.
- Students must hold a licence for any software privately installed on the laptop.
- Should accidental damage occur to the device, a $50 fee is charged on the first incident, $100 on the second and $150 for every subsequent incident.
- Any wilful or malicious damage incurs full repair or replacement cost.

All Year 8 and 9 students will be issued with a laptop for use at school. Students will be able to take their laptop home if they have signed up for the Take-Home Option, otherwise the laptop is stored in the Resource Centre. Year 9 laptops have been distributed this week and Year 8 laptops will be distributed next week. The Parent Information Session for the Year 8 Student Laptop Program was held on Tuesday, 31 January. Thank you to many parents and students who attended. If Year 9-12 students have decided that they wish to participate in the take-home option, particularly with the new Acer Aspire device, information is still available from the office.

Interhouse Swimming Carnival
Friday 17 February 2012
Come in house colours and support your team. Enclosed shoes required.

Chess Club

Chess has been around in its current form for about 500 years and in schools chess has been used for both educational and recreational purposes. Chess provides skills such as problem solving, abstract reasoning and patience. Our school provides the opportunity for your child to engage and learn the game of chess in a friendly, relaxed environment. The Chess Club is led by Mr Andrew Kos and meetings take place each Thursday, second break in A1. All students are welcome to attend from Year 8 to 12, beginners to experts. There is the opportunity to compete against other Burdekin schools and also in the Interschool Chess Competition held in Townsville on 29 February. For more information see Mr Kos.

Grease

by Miss Maree Longworth

Beginning 10 February, the Burdekin Singers present their spectacular rendition of the classic 80’s musical Grease. With classic songs like Greased Lightning, Summer Nights and We Go Together you will be entertained from start to finish by a talented cast. We would like to wish the Ayr High students good luck for opening night; Ashley Parker, Chloe Webber, Sam Row, Tayla Hancock, Ty Hancock, Laura Sloan and Adam Dudley, as well as the teachers who are performing on the night. For more information and show times contact the Burdekin Theatre.

Grease is the word!