Student leaders for 2013 proudly accepted their badges of office before the school community, family and friends on Wednesday 13 February. The Student Executive capably conducted the ceremony, their first official responsibility. School captains, Holly and Shane presented an overview of the tasks ahead for each of the Executive.

There are many challenges ahead; being a leader can be hard work but already the leaders are settling into their role having organised Valentine’s Day, the Swimming Carnival and term 1 disco. Meggan is busily engaging students in the new aspects to interhouse competition involving the performing and visual arts; while Savannah is working on ways to involve the Student Council in the school’s decision making processes. We wish all leaders a successful year.

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Congratulations go out to Phillip who took out the 2013 Ayr State High School Swimming Carnival. They were deserving winners. The carnival was a great success with a high level of participation on the day. I would like to thank Ms Carrigan and the rest of the staff for running an outstanding event.

One of our priorities this year is the continued roll out of our School Wide Positive Behaviour Program. SWPBS focuses on reinforcing positive behaviour and this term we have implemented a new program of issuing ‘Hawk points’ to students who are displaying their personal best in targeted behaviour areas. The focus so far has been on attendance and preparedness for lessons and I am happy to say it is having a real positive effect on students across the year levels. As the year progresses we will continue to roll out more areas of targeted behaviours.

The ability to be able to write to a high standard across a wide range of contexts is essential to success at high school. Writing is assessed across all subject areas but also is a major focus of both the NAPLAN tests and the QCS test (which leads into OP scores and university entrance). This week students have been supplied with a resource to develop greater sophistication in their written tasks. This resource is a reference book ‘How to write what you want to say... a guide for students who know what they want to say but can’t find the words’. The book is written by literacy expert Patricia Hipwell and serves as an essential tool for students in all subjects. Students should have the ‘blue book’ at school each day and can use it to develop their writing skills. I encourage all parents and guardians to have a look at the book and see what a great resource this will be.

Monday 4 March 7.30 pm is our P&Cs AGM. I encourage all parents to come along and get involved in our peak parent body. This year the P&C will also be reviewing our school uniform, so come along and get involved!

Yours in education

Craig Whittred
Principal
**Ayr High’s annual Inter-house Swimming Carnival was awash with colour and excitement on Friday 22 February. Phillip led from the front all day claiming a convincing win to take out overall Swimming House Champion for the fifth year in a row. Phillip finished on 1040 points; Banks placed second with 733 points; Macquarie in third place with 659 points; and Cook languished into fourth place on 643 points. Congratulations to the Phillip House Captains and House Parents for organising and encouraging their team towards a well deserved victory. Well done to the Captains of the other Houses who provided a great day of spirit and competition.**

**Macquarie was deemed to be the loudest and proudest House demonstrating overall team spirit with continual chants and encouragement for their participants throughout the day and was awarded the ‘Spirit Stick’. Daniel McConnachie (U19), Hollie Grant (U19), Jacob McConnachie (U15), Kyla Pringle (U15) and Ty Everett (U13) are to be congratulated in sharing the Max Tavasci Trophy, which is awarded to individual performers who achieve maximum individual points (75 points). Two records were broken this year. Daniel McConnachie broke his own record (set last year) in the U19 male 100m Freestyle with a time of 59.28 (59.83) seconds. Taya Wood broke the U13 female 50m Backstroke with a time of 37.84 (38.90) seconds. The Individual Age Champions are published below.**

The success of this year’s carnival was a result of the time and planning of all House Captains, senior students and House Teachers. They are to be congratulated for their efforts as is the student body for enthusiastic support, participation and excellent behaviour.

Thanks are extended to the Ayr Amateur Swimming Club particularly Mr Michael McConnachie who once again provided and set up equipment used on the day; Ayr McDonalds and A & B Rural for the use of their tents; the Year 12 students and staff who helped set-up tents at 7.00 am; all school staff who helped in preparing, supervising or officiating and the Ayr High Interact Club for the food. Thank you.

### Age Champions

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<tr>
<th>DIV.</th>
<th>AGE CHAMPIONS</th>
<th>HOUSE</th>
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<tr>
<td>U13</td>
<td>Taya Wood</td>
<td>Cook</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ty Everett</td>
<td>Banks</td>
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<td>U14</td>
<td>Emma Lyons</td>
<td>Phillip</td>
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<td>Tyler Northwood</td>
<td>Phillip</td>
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<td>U15</td>
<td>Kyla Pringle</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jacob McConnachie</td>
<td>Phillip</td>
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<td>U16</td>
<td>Alice Graham</td>
<td>Banks</td>
<td>70</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Matthew Wight</td>
<td>Macquarie</td>
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<td>U19</td>
<td>Hollie Grant</td>
<td>Banks</td>
<td>75</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Daniel McConnachie</td>
<td>Phillip</td>
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</tbody>
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**Northern (NQ) Selections**

Congratulations to Jay Leckenby (Year 11), René Le Feuvre (Year 10), Anton Campbell (Year 10), Daniel McConnachie (Year 12) and Jacob McConnachie (Year 9) who have been selected in Northern sport squads recently and will participate at their respective Queensland Championships. Jay has been selected for Tennis and will travel to Toowoomba in mid-March; René and Anton were selected for Touch (U15 Boys) and will travel to Mt Isa at the end of May; Daniel and Jacob have been selected for Swimming and will travel to Brisbane towards the end of March.

Special mention to Zoie Borellini (Year 11) who was selected as a shadow player for the Open Girls Touch squad. Well done to all students and we wish them well.
Chappy’s Brekkie Club
by Rod Williams, Chappy’s Brekkie Club Co-ordinator & Scott McLean (Chappy Scotty), School Chaplain

Every Wednesday morning a free breakfast for students and staff will be served between 8.10 am and 8.30 am in the BBQ area. Although one aim of this initiative is to provide a healthy breakfast for our students one day each week, the main reason we have decided to start Chappy’s Brekkie club is to enhance the school community by increasing the number of positive interactions: student to student, student to teacher and staff member to staff member.

It will also provide opportunities for willing students to give something back to the school by assisting with the breakfast preparations. Each Wednesday one of the four different breakfast offerings (sausage sizzle, pancakes, bacon and egg sandwiches or savoury mince on toast) will be available at no cost. Fresh fruit and juice or water will be available every week.

Your assistance with this exciting school community initiative would be greatly appreciated. Ways you could help include:
- donating money to help cover the cost of the food
- donating fruit, eggs etc especially if you grow some at home
- assisting to prepare the food
- encouraging your children to be involved.

The inaugural brekkie was a great success attracting great support from staff and students - details next Ayring.

NCSS students return
by Mrs Vicki Toohey, HOD - Business, IT & Humanities

Caleb Leth and Riko Hansen returned from the National Computer Science School (NCSS) held at the University of Sydney in January with plenty of stories about working in the Information Technology Field. The National Computer Science School is a ten day summer school for students going into Years 11 and 12. It brings together talented young people from around Australia for an intensive course of computer programming and website development in the School of IT at the University of Sydney. The aim is to attract students into considering the career choice offered by studying an ICT related subject at University. Working with industrial sponsors, NCSS provides students with an opportunity to visualise a path to interesting programming-related careers in engineering and computer science.

At the end of the ten days, the students were required to participate in an employment interview with sponsors from the IT industry. Riko was interviewed by representatives from “Google” and Caleb by representatives from the software development company, “Atlassian”. Both students found the experience invaluable.

Students from all around the country nominate for a position at the National forum. Ayr State High School students have met the criteria for the past four years. Caleb and Riko were sponsored by Mrs Pam Miller whose son Nick attended the summer school in 2010.

Upcoming Events

- 5 Mar 11 RYDA
- 6 Mar YESS - Smart Start Yr 6 & 7s
- 7 Mar Burdekin Trials - Netball (15/19 yrs)
- 12 Mar YESS - Smart Start Yr 6 & 7s
- 13 Mar Students vs Teachers (Indoor Cricket)
- 12 Mar Interschool Rugby League/Netball (3.30pm)
- 13 Mar Pink Stumps Day (Fundraiser for Jane McGrath)
- 13 Mar Free Dress in Pink
- 14 Mar Interim reports issued

Music Support Group Meeting
Annual General Meeting
Monday 18 March 2013
7.30 pm, A12
followed by March monthly meeting
All welcome

Tutoring at Ayr High
English
Room: A4
Tuesday 8.00 - 8.30 am (Yr 11 & 12 only)
Tuesday 3.15 - 4.15 pm (All year levels)

Maths & Science
Room: D1 Lab
Wednesday 3.15 - 4.15 pm
Thursday 3.15 - 4.15 pm

Bingo
Saturday 2.00 pm
Anglican Church Hall
Jackpots $400, $300, $200

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SWPBS - Prizes for 100% Attendance

by Mrs Claire Brock, SWPBS

SWPBS is the framework adopted by Ayr High to focus on the positive things our students do during their school activities. For the first few weeks of the school year our focus was on Attendance. Students are required to be at all classes on time and ready to work. It is also expected that if a student is away the parent or guardian notifies the school. The names of the many students who had 100% attendance were placed in a draw and 12 rewardees were presented on the Whole School Assembly. Prizes for 100% Attendance included Pizza and Coke Vouchers as well as ITune cards. Congratulations to the lucky 12 and keep up the great efforts Ayr High Students.

Interim Reports
by Mrs Lesley Olsen, Senior Secondary Deputy Principal

Reports will be issued to students to take home on Wednesday 13 March. The report provides a brief overview of how well students have settled in to the new school year. It is not intended to report on achievement at this early stage but the report will provide a snapshot of progress in several areas. Parent-Student-Teacher interviews will follow on Tuesday 19 March. The online booking system will be available from 4.00 pm on Wednesday 13 March. Instructions for scheduling your interviews will be provided with the report.

Photography Crew
by Mrs Saskia Vollema-Creek

This year, Ayr High has established a group for camera enthusiasts. The Photography Crew consists of a group of students who are interested in learning how to take great photos on an SLR camera. So far, several students have taken photos at school events such as the student induction, the first disco and more recently the swimming carnival. After some of these events, several photos will be selected, printed and placed on display in the Resource Centre. As the year progresses the students will be given more opportunities to hone their new skills at other school events. Techniques such as composition and use of lighting are what students are currently focusing on. With the availability of one SLR camera, the students are currently taking turns to use it at events. In order to provide them with more opportunities to improve their skills, it would be great to have more cameras available for the students. If you have an older SLR digital camera no longer being used at your home, I would very much appreciate you donating it for the students to use. I can be contacted through the school office.

Year 8 Meet & Greet Night
by Mrs Lesley Olsen, Senior Secondary Deputy Principal

Tuesday 12 March 2013
5.30 pm
Smart Media Centre

Ayr State High School P&C Association
A.G.M
7.30 pm, Monday 4 March
Ayr High Library
followed by March monthly meeting
All Welcome

Year 11 Events
by Mrs Lesley Olsen, Senior Secondary Deputy Principal

RYDA

On Tuesday 5 March all Year 11 students will attend the Burdekin RYDA Program at the Burdekin TAFE campus. The program is delivered to the three local high schools at this time, equipping young people with the knowledge to stay safe on Australian Roads. (No Year 11 classes will be held on this day; all students will be attending the RYDA program.)

Work Experience

All Year 11 students are expected to participate in work experience during the week of 6 May 2013. Placing students in their preferred work will commence from 11 March 2013. Students must return their forms by Friday 8 March 2013. (No Year 11 classes will be held during work experience week; all students will be in the work place.)

Assessment Calendars
by Mrs Lesley Olsen, Senior Secondary Deputy Principal

Students should transfer dates from the assessment calendars (issued this week) into their student planners. Please check your child’s assessment calendar to assist them with time management and completion of assessment.
## Canteen Rules:
- No ports or bags through the Canteen line.
- Only 4 items per student.
- $50 notes will only be changed towards the end of First Break.
- Canteen closes 10 minutes before the end of each break.

## Everyday:
**Sandwiches:**
- Chicken, Mayo & Lettuce: $3.50
- Chicken, Avocado & Lettuce: $3.50
- Ham & Salad (Lettuce, Carrot, Tomato & Cheese): $3.50
- Roast Beef and Salad: $3.50
- Egg, Mayo & Lettuce: $3.50

**Chicken Caesar Salad Boxes:** $3.50

**Chicken & Salad Wraps:** $3.50

**Ham & Salad Wraps:** $3.50

**Toasties (Except Wednesday):**
- Chicken and Cheese (1/2 round): $1.70
- Ham and Cheese (1/2 round): $1.70

**Pies and Pasties:** $3.30

**Sausage Rolls:** $2.20

**Sauce Sachet:** $.30

## Monday Special:
**Slice of Pizza (Meatlovers, Chicken & BBQ Sauce, Ham and Pineapple):** $2.20

**Sushi:** $3.60

## Tuesday Special:
**Subway (6” Chicken Strip, BMT, Club):** $4.00

**Hot Dog:** $3.00

## Wednesday Special:
**Meat Pattie and Cheese Burger:** $3.50

**Spagheti/Pasta:** $3.50

## Thursday Special:
**Red Rooster Chicken Roll (Hot):** $5.00

**Red Rooster BLT Roll (Cold):** $5.00

## Friday Special:
**Fish Burger with/without Mayonnaise:** $3.80

**Fish Burger with Mayonnaise and Salad (Lettuce & Tomato):** $4.00

## Drinks:
- Large Milks and Juice: $3.00
- Small Milks and Juice: $2.00
- Water: $1.50

## Second Break:
- Various Ice-creams: from $1.00 to $1.80
- Small Packets Chips: $1.00
- Quench: $2.00
- Nutrient Water: $3.50
- Iced Tea: $2.50
- Slush: $2.50