Year 10 Careers Day
by Miss Sarah Shaw, Guidance Officer

On Friday 10 June Ayr State High School and Home Hill State High School came together for a Careers Day, a part of the Year 10 Careers Programmes. Throughout the programme, students have been learning about their strengths and weaknesses, while investigating the range of options available to them in senior. The purpose of career education is to provide students with well rounded information to assist in their selection of subjects for Year 11 and 12, leading to valid career pathways at the end of Year 12 in 2018.

Thirty-eight speakers from local businesses, education centres and beyond spoke to students. The Burdekin Shire’s Mayor, Lyn McLaughlin, opened the day with a keynote presentation on employment in the Burdekin. It was great to see all one hundred and thirty students engaged throughout the day participating in discussions/presentations from industry representatives. Allira Storey, from Digital Careers, also gave a very insightful and engaging keynote presentation about how technology is making a significant impact on the workforce. She discussed the impact that this has on a student’s preparation for the workforce and the skills that are essential for success.

Prior to Careers Day, students completed a preference form where they selected four industries that interested them. Presenters from a range of professions spoke about the variety of careers available in their field of work, gave brief descriptions of each career within the field, outlined the education or training required for the career and gave some personal insights and humorous anecdotes. The small group structure allowed for students to ask a lot of questions and presenters were able to tailor the content to the needs of the group.

This is the 17th Careers Day convened by Mr Bruce Johnson from Ayr State High School, however this was the first year that Ayr State High School and Home Hill State High School have worked together. Feedback from students and teachers was that the day was a great success.

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From the Principal
by Mr Craig Whittred, Principal
Editorial - Newsletter No. 8 17/06/16

W

ith one week to go in Semester 1 we have seen some outstanding achievements across the school. As our students enter into end of semester assessment, I am sure we will see even more outstanding achievements. Whilst the Year 11 and 12 students are engaged in the assessment block, the rest of our students have important assessment and learning to complete over the last five days of the term. Attendance in this last week is essential to achieve the results each student deserves, after their hard work over the last 19 weeks.

I have spoken before about our 2016 school improvement agenda focusing on HIGH EXPECTATIONS and POSITIVE CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT. Now that we have achieved consistently high levels of attendance we will broaden our focus to include a focus on effort and behaviour, within the classroom. In this issue of the Ayring we unpack our expectations and also announce awards that will acknowledge those students that meet daily these expectations at a high level throughout the school year. As with attendance, effort and behaviour are things that every student has ultimate control over. This enables every student to be able to achieve the awards. By raising our expectations of every student, supporting every student to achieve their personal best and acknowledging excellence, we feel we will create a school culture that enables all students to have positive educational outcomes.

Within the last week we have had two major fundraising events. Last Friday was the inaugural All Schools Junior Disco. This was a great event with students from all three major secondary schools attending. Even though we had a modest number of students attend, it was a great night with lots of fun had by all the students. A very big thank you to our P&C and also to all the parents and older students who helped out on the night. Our second event was the movie premiere of Finding Dory. It was another success with many members of our school and wider community supporting the event. A big thanks to the staff and students who helped organise the events and also to the parents/carers/students who donated food for the pre movie nibbles - yum!

As the Semester draws to a close, sadly we say goodbye to some staff members. Mrs Fortescue is returning to Brisbane to return to her family. We thank her for her efforts this year; she has made a real difference to our school even if she was here only for a short time. Miss Van Horssen is returning to Brisbane to be closer to family. She has done a good job in our classrooms and worked with the artists on the creation of sets for the musical; we wish her well for the future. Mr and Mrs Jones are also heading down south to be closer to family. Both of them have made a big impact on our school in the years that they have been at our school. We will greatly miss not only their input into day to day classes but also their work with our instrumental music program, sport, drama, just to name a few. We wish them all the best in the next chapter of their lives.

Mrs Sladden will also be missing from our school starting next term. She will be a great loss as she has touched the lives of so many past and present students, and staff as well. Mrs Sladden’s enthusiasm for learning, her commitment to high standards, and her care for the students is the benchmark for quality teaching. We wish her all the best and even though she may not come back to the classroom, we are hoping she will still help teach our teachers a thing or two.

Finally as we go towards the holidays I wish everyone a happy and safe break. I am looking forward to seeing everyone back for Semester 2, ready to improve even further, by doing their personal best each and every day. Yours in education

Craig Whittred
Principal

Welcome to Ayr State High School
Our school acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this land. 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.

Our New Youth Support Co-ordinator
by Mrs Kathy Fortescue, Deputy Principal - Senior School

As the senior students will be aware, Mrs Megan Breen is no longer our Youth Support Co-ordinator after taking up a teaching position within our school's Special Education faculty. I would like to welcome our new Youth Support Co-ordinator, Mrs Bernice Zaro, who is a well known and respected local community member. She has hit the ground running with our senior students and is settling into her new role within the Ayr State High School community. Bernice’s role involves working with the Year 11 and 12 students to ensure that they are on track with their studies and to assist them to be successful. Many of the Year 12 students have already come into contact with Bernice, and the Year 11s will also meet Bernice shortly when SET plan reviews are conducted early in Term 3.

Music Support Meeting
Thursday 23 June 2016
5 pm, A14
New parents/carers welcome.

P&C Meeting
Monday 11 July 2016
7.30 pm, Resource Centre
All welcome.

Absentee Hotline
4790 4353
If your child is away either:
• phone the hotline/leave a message (messages will be attended to by close of business each day),
• text message or.
• hand in a note, on return, to Mrs Slattery at the office.
Northern (NQ) Selections
by Miss Courtney Carrigan, Sports Co-ordinator

Congratulations to Declan Dowson (Year 9), Ryan Kastner (Year 9), Abigail Evetts (Year 10) and Tara Jenkins (Year 10) who were selected in Northern (NQ) squads recently. Students will represent Northern (NQ) in the following sports:
Declan - Cross Country
Ryan - U15 Basketball
Abby - U15 Football
Tara - Golf

These students will represent the Northern district at QLD State Championships later in Term 3. Special mention to Parker Arboit (Year 10) who was selected as a shadow player in the U15 boys Football squad. Well done and good luck!

Ultimate CO₂ Dragsters Race - Year 9 ITD
by Miss Courtney Carrigan, HOD - HPE, Practical Technologies & LOTE

This week saw the culmination of a term’s hard work put to the test in the ultimate CO₂ Dragster race. Year 9 Industrial Technology Design (ITD) students spent the first five weeks of this term planning and designing an effective and aerodynamic dragster with the hope it would be fast. The last five weeks have seen students construct and build their dragster, paint and perform test runs. The sprint track was set-up this week and during their ITD classes students raced their dragsters in a knockout-style format, with the winner progressing until one dragster was left as the overall winner. Students will now evaluate their performance and car design. Congratulations to all students involved, and Mr Scott and Mr Lacey.

Hospitality Students
Experience a Dinner Service at The Ville
by Mrs Rebekah Williams, Hospitality Teacher

On Saturday 21 May, five Certificate II Hospitality students (two Year 11 and three Year 12) travelled to Townsville to participate in a dinner being held for the North Queensland Cowboys football team. The students worked an eight hour shift at the The Ville Resort and Casino serving 800 guests. Students were run off their feet with no chance of a break. During their service period, students worked in small teams with staff from The Ville: setting up tables for service, seating the guests with their napkins (lay the napkin across the guests lap), carrying large trays of food (often with six - seven plates of food on them, for entrée and main courses), clearing plates, getting the guests drinks and making sure guests were happy and content. Students did not finish service until 11 pm and were exhausted, but energised from being on the go.
This was the first “real world” function for the Year 11’s and they commented that they “could not believe how busy and hectic being a waiter was.” Overall the students did an outstanding job working in teams, with people they do not know, and serving such a large group of people.

Interhouse Athletics Carnival

3000 m - Mon 18 July
Spirit Day - Tues 19 July
1500 m - Wed 20 July
Field Events - Thurs 21 July (12 - 3 pm)
Carnival - Fri 22 July (8.50 am - 3 pm)
Parents/carers and family members welcome.
STEM Success in 2016

Congratulations to Lyam Loring who has been successful in gaining a place at the prestigious Queensland University of Technology STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Programme in October. He follows, Matt Wight, Liam Shannon, Luke Sockhill and Tyler Northwood who attended in previous years. Lyam will test-drive his university ambitions during the five day camp in Brisbane. The QUT Vice-Chancellor’s STEM Programme will give top school students from around Queensland the opportunity to apply their creativity and investigative skills to a range of current topics including environmental issues, problems in medicine, food and energy sectors as well as IT security.

In addition to QUT experts, some of Queensland’s top engineers, scientists, mathematicians, architects and IT leaders will mentor the students during the week.

We thank and acknowledge the significant contribution that QUT is placing in our students with all costs (travel, accommodation and programme) being fully funded for students.

Exciting News!

Congratulations to Calen Graham, Mackenzie Devow, Rachael Zani, Blaise Heron and Jaidyn Penny who have been accepted into the Indigenous Youth Leadership camp held at International House within the University of Queensland. The camp will run from Monday 27 - Thursday 30 June.

The Indigenous Youth Leadership Camp (IYLC) is an exciting initiative. The programme empowers 16 - 17 year old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students to aspire to be a part of increasing the numbers of Indigenous students in higher education.

Mentors (International House residents) and Mentees (camp attendees) engage in a variety of personal and professional development activities at The University of Queensland (UQ) and around Brisbane. The aim is to increase their interest in higher education and encourage them to seek further learning at the end of Year 12. Mentees are provided with the opportunity to build their leadership skills, acquaint themselves with residential college and university lifestyle, improve their teamwork skills, public speaking abilities and establish strong friendships.

We wish the students all the very best for a wonderful camp!

Altitude Day - Year 9 Leadership Excursion

Our young people are growing up in challenging times! They experience so many pressures and so many opportunities are on offer. We at Ayr High believe in young people, we believe that every student can do remarkable things and grow to be resilient members of the wider community.

Participation in a National Event, Altitude Day, was one more opportunity for students to grow and develop confidence. Altitude Day empowered Year 9 students with the confidence tools to live positively and make a difference in their school and community. A high energy environment and inter-school networking activities, with inspiration speakers, made Altitude Day a unique, memorable and transformational experience. On Friday 27 May a small group of our Year 9 students had a great day at Tony Ireland Stadium and gained advice on how to make good choices, whilst forming a strong network of peers from schools across the region.
The Drama Department
by Mrs Maree Milne, Drama Teacher

It has been such an exciting term for the Drama Department, filled with excursions, guest speakers and visits from the primary schools. First, the Year 10 students were treated to a Mask Theatre workshop from the very exuberant, Clint from Homunculus Theatre Company in Brisbane. Clint took the Year 10 students through a series of games and activities which built energy and focused on empowering the body as a source of communication. He then introduced the class to Shaun, a mask who was used to workshop a range of improvisation performances. It was so uplifting, as a teacher, to watch the students become so energised and enjoying watching all of the performances. When the students left the room, there was a smile on each of their faces; that alone was so rewarding. Next, Year 10 were treated to a workshop by Susie, the Artistic Director of DanceNorth, who took the students through a range of movement activities which focused on expressing emotion and story line through the body and music. A very different workshop to Clint’s, however equally as effective in terms of learning how the body can communicate emotion and a story line to audiences.

Next, the Year 11 and 12 Drama, along with Year 11 Drama in Practice students, travelled to Townsville to watch Shake and Stir Theatre Company’s adaptation of *Wuthering Heights*. From the moment the lights went up, to the second they went down, the students were captivated by the set, projections and costumes. Little did they know, that they would get literally soaking wet sitting in the front row, because as Heathcliff took his final breath, the stage filled with rain from above, and water ran throughout the stage and into trap doors. A special effect our students have never seen before.

Finally, the Year 3 teachers from both Ayr State Primary and East Ayr State Primary School are completing a unit in English which requires some dramatic skill. The Year 11 and 12 Drama class visited East Ayr State School, and Ayr State School visited the Year 12 Drama Studies class, where both classes performed for the Year 3 students, demonstrating a ‘good’ performance, versus a ‘bad’ performance. As well as this, the Year 12 students played many games with the Year 3 students to give them the opportunity to experience Drama, a subject they have little exposure to.

Well done to all of the Senior Drama students (Years 10-12) who participated in the range of workshops and visits, wait until next term when there are more plays to see and more workshops to participate in!

**School Jumpers in 2016**

*Be prepared for cooler days*

In 2010 the P&C Association endorsed an official school jumper. This is the only jumper acceptable. It is a dark green jumper, available from the school office for $30. If your child needs to wear a jumper for warmth please make it the official school jumper.

**Can You Help?**

The Year 12 Graduates are looking for decorations to use at their Graduation. Do you have any of these lying around, gathering dust and would like to donate them to the Graduation committee?
- Novels (unable to be returned)
- White fairy lights
- Jars of different sizes and shapes

Your help would be much appreciated and we will do our best to return your items if necessary.

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*Issue No 8 - 2016*

*It’s not OK to be away*
QCAA Trial Maths B Exam
by Mr Kerry Flynn, HOD - Maths & Science

In 2018, Queensland schools will move to a new model of Senior Schooling. This new system will involve students completing both school based assessment tasks and external tasks set and marked by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA). In preparation for this new system, a range of trials have been occurring across the state. Here at Ayr High, our current Year 11 Maths B students sat an external exam on 1 June as part of the Maths B trial. The exam was conducted under strict conditions and a special thanks must go to Mr Cathcart who prepared students for the task and to the Year 11 students whose attitude and approach were commendable. Well done students!! A special thank you also to Mr Tony Gemellaro who was the QCAA appointed supervisor for the exam.

Beware of Cane Trains and Crossings

Mill locomotives have commenced operations throughout the district this week for the start of crushing operations. The mills will crush in a continuous mode which entails operating over 24 hours per day seven days a week. Please remind your children to never play along railway tracks, ride on cane bins or ride bikes along lines. They should never use the railway line as a short cut to and from school. This is trespassing as well as being a dangerous practice.

Keep a watch on our school these holidays

Parents and students can help take care of our school by reporting any suspicious after-hours activity to School Watch on 13 17 88.

By keeping an eye out we can work together to create a safer school community and help to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in our school.

If you see something suspicious, please don’t intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.

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Layout and Design - Victoria Augostis
Success for All Students

In 2016 Ayr SHS has an Improvement agenda focus of High Expectations and a Positive Learning Environment. Over the last few years Our Success For All Students policy has focused on high level attendance, setting a benchmark at 95% attendance. This has seen improved outcomes for our students who have achieved the benchmark.

As we continue to unpack our High Expectations the Success For All Students Policy will add a focus on students’ Effort and Behaviour within the classroom. We believe if students have high levels of attendance, effort and positive behaviour they are positioning themselves in the best place to achieve the highest possible outcomes, thereby ensuring a positive future.

Following on from the success with our improved attendance, we need to first unpack the expectations of Effort and Behaviour to our school community and then we will acknowledge those students who achieve these expectations to a high level.

How Are Effort and Behaviour Marks Determined by Teachers?

Our expectations of Effort and Behaviour are linked to our School Values and our Learner Code.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reporting:</th>
<th>Values:</th>
<th>Learner Code:</th>
<th>Criteria:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| EFFORT    | Excellence and Perseverance | Personal Best | • Brings necessary materials to class  
• Arrives to class on time  
• Is ready to learn  
• Follows bookwork policy  
• Works with others when required  
• Tries to be the best of ability  
• Meets assignment and task deadlines (including homework)  
• Seeks and uses teacher feedback |
| BEHAVIOUR | Honesty and integrity | Safe | • Acts responsibly in upholding the rights of others to be safe and learn unhindered  
• Helpful attitude towards students and staff  
• Respectful of teachers, students and staff and property/environment  
• Takes pride in self (including appearance), others and school achievements  
• Follows classroom expectations/routines |

How Will Students be Acknowledged?

Each term Effort and Behaviour Awards will be determined by ratings that students receive from their teachers in reports. There will be two categories of awards; Gold and Silver. The criteria for each award is as follows:

**Gold Award:** All Effort and Behaviour comments must be ‘Excellent’

**Silver Award:** All Effort and Behaviour comments must be ‘Very Good’ or ‘Excellent’

**For example:** The following student would receive a Silver Award based on the criteria above:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Area/Subject</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| ENGLISH               | Mrs J Smith | B Effort: Very Good  
Behaviour: Excellent  |
| MATHEMATICS           | Mr B Jones | B Effort: Very Good  
Behaviour: Excellent  |
| SCIENCE               | Mr R Bally | A Effort: Excellent  
Behaviour: Excellent  |
| HISTORY               | Miss I Spring | C Effort: Very Good  
Behaviour: Very Good  |
| HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION | Ms A Day | A Effort: Excellent  
Behaviour: Excellent  |
| VISUAL ARTS           | Mr I Nile | A Effort: Very Good  
Behaviour: Excellent  |
| TECHNOLOGY Information and Communication Technologies | Mrs T Smythe | B Effort: Very Good  
Behaviour: Very Good  |

Ayr State High School is committed to providing the students of the Burdekin an excellent educational experience. By raising our expectations of every student, supporting every student to achieve their personal best and acknowledging excellence, we feel we will create a school culture that enables all students to have positive educational outcomes.
Ignite Your Mind
Burdekin Readers & Writers Festival
15, 16, 17 JULY 2016
FRIDAY • SATURDAY • SUNDAY

Ignite Your Mind Readers & Writers Festival is the first event of its kind in the Burdekin and is celebrating its 2nd year after a successful inaugural event in 2015.

We are pleased to be building on that success. This exciting festival will entertain, stimulate and inspire your love of reading and writing. A full day of school programs, followed by a weekend of Workshops and Author Sessions will provide the chance to listen to these Authors speak about their books and their personal journeys as writers.

Take the opportunity to ask questions and hone your writing skills under the guidance of these Authors.

www.burdekinreadersandwriters.org.au
Facebook: Burdekin Readers and Writers Assoc Inc. Twitter: BRWayr