

NEWSLETTER



Success Crowns Effort



From the Principal's desk.....



Welcome back to Hughenden State School for 2023!

We are excited to have increased enrolments and are hard at work ensuring your children understand our expectations and routines.

Our school's traditional motto is 'Success crowns effort' and in 2023 this message is still very relevant.

We have had a large number of new staff members join us for 2023. We welcome the following staff to our team:

Shirley Davey (Acting Deputy Principal)

Tyler Brandis (Secondary Science/History)

Emma Murray (Secondary Math/HPE)

Tim Adair (Secondary ITD/Science)

Marissa Munro (Technologies/Learning Support)

Chelsea Horton (Prep/Year 1)

Jamie O'Day (Year 2/3)

Christopher Yianakelis (District Relief Teacher)

Louella Lodewyk (Guidance Officer)

Ellena Reid (School based health nurse)

Lisa Davidson (Indigenous Teacher Aide)



UPCOMING:

APRIL

17 TERM 2 commences

20 NW 10-12yrs Netball trials - Hughenden

25 ANZAC DAY

28-30 Festival of Outback Skies

MAY

5 INTERHOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

12 Wind in the Willows - Workshop

15 Wind in the Willows - Performance

15-19 Year 5/6 Camp - Paluma

17 Music Viva Performance

18 QLD Cricket clinics

23 School Photos

JUNE

1 INTERHOUSE ATHLETICS

1-3 Hughenden Show

2 Show holiday

19 Mid West Athletics - Hughenden

23 Term 2 ends

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I am pleased to announce that the Department of Education is now recognising the complexity of our school's remoteness and diverse range of learners from Prep to Year 12, by allocating us the funding to have a Deputy Principal, as well as a Head of Department – Teaching and Learning. Internal recruitment has taken place to temporarily fill these positions for Term 2 and I would like to congratulate Mrs Shirley Davey for stepping up to Acting Deputy Principal and Mrs Clare Garrels for stepping up to Acting Head of Department. A state-wide recruitment process will take place early in Term 3 to fill the Deputy Principal position permanently.

Our leadership team for 2023 is:

- Jeremy Callaghan (Principal)
- Shirley Davey (A/Deputy Principal)
- Clare Garrels (A/HOD – Teaching and Learning)
- Tracey Jones (Secondary School coordinator)
- Peta Thompson (Vocational Education and Training coordinator)
- Natasha Carroll (Business Manager)

Each member of the team has their specific roles and responsibilities towards driving the strategic direction of the school for 2023.

Our four key school priorities for 2023 are:

Improve Student Achievement in English Years Prep – Year 6: By implementing a systematic approach to the teaching of synthetic phonics (Reading) and Embedding our 'Before' moderation and academic case management practices in English (Writing).

Improve Student Achievement in English, Mathematics and Science in Years 7-10: By strengthening our practices and processes in again 'Before' moderation and academic case management in these subject areas.

Prepare our Students of Years 10-12 for the Future through Meaningful Pathways: By maximising student interests, preferences and strengths through VET opportunities and implementing a systematic approach to pathway planning and career education for students in Years 10-12.

Increase our First Nations student's engagement and maximise their learning days to reach their full potential: By strengthening community partnerships to enrich the presence of cultural connections into everyday learning.

Lastly, raising pre-teens and teenagers is a difficult job, and similarly many difficulties arise when so many students come to the same place all together here at school. It is essential that parents and the school work together in partnership in order to get the best outcomes for your children. Please be understanding when the inevitable issues arise between students, that this is all part of the normal way teenagers find their own place in the world. There are always two sides to the story. It is essential that for us to help, your child or yourself makes the school aware of any issues so we can find out what is happening and put measures in place which encourage students to make better choices. Hughenden State School has high expectations for behaviour and effort for your children. These are in place to ensure your child has the necessary employability skills needed to get a job and keep it. If you support us with this work by actively talking with your children about the need to meet these expectations, the tough job of raising children can be shared between parents and the school. I look forward to working with you all for the remainder of 2023, so we can ensure your child reaches their full potential and reaches their desired future pathway.

Jeremy Callaghan
Principal



I would like to thank you for making me feel very welcome since my arrival at Hughenden State School at the start of the year.

It has been a busy start to the year with all classes learning a lot and working hard and all teachers planning the best activities for the students in their class. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 completed NAPLAN a couple of weeks ago and they were very excited about their bacon and egg breakfast each morning before completing their tests.

As you may have seen on our Facebook page or in the Townsville Bulletin we have started a Monday morning bus run with support from Flinders Shire Council who have provided us with use of their bus each week. This bus service is available to all students. If you would like the bus to pick up your child please contact the school so that you can complete the paperwork.

The bus run is designed to give students a good start to the week. As we all know regular school attendance gives students a better chance at life. Students achieve better when they go to school all day, every school day because:

- they have increased access to learning opportunities
- they maintain friendships
- they stay connected to the curriculum progression
- they develop self-efficacy as a learner
- they have better long-term life outcomes

We also have breakfast club available every morning before school for all students to access.

This Term the class with the highest attendance in the Primary school is Miss O'Day's Year 2/3 class and the highest attending class for the whole school is our Year 12 class. It is great to see our school leaders turning up to school every day and setting a great example for all other students.

As Mr Callaghan wrote we have four key school priorities this year and this week Miss Vicki and myself went to Mt Isa to start on a key piece of work which will strengthen community partnerships to enrich the presence of cultural connections into everyday learning. We will be working with Miss Lisa and a range of organisations to create a seasonal flora, fauna and weather calendar that has a Hughenden focus. A number of other schools across North Western Queensland are also undertaking this project. We hope to involve a range of students from across the school in this project which will be completed during Term 2.

Our Learning Fair is scheduled for Thursday, April 27, 2023. Parents/Carers are invited to attend to view their child's assessments for Term 1. Students look forward to their parents attending so they can show them what has been happening in the classroom. More information will be sent to parents/carers early next term.

Ms Shirley Davey
Acting Deputy Principal



It has been an exciting start to the year with Jakeb Sladden being signed up for his School Based Apprenticeship. Jakeb will be completing his Certificate III Meat Processing (Retail Meat) apprenticeship 1 day a week at the Flinders Butchery.

A huge thank you to Flinders Butchery for giving Jakeb this opportunity! We are very appreciative of the opportunities local businesses give our students.

School-based apprenticeships and traineeships allow high school students to work for an employer and train towards a recognised qualification, while still completing secondary schooling and studying for their Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) and/or Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR).

Hughenden State School is grateful for the support received from local businesses who are willing to take our students for work experience and school-based apprenticeships and traineeship.

Mrs Peta Thompson





In Weeks 9 and 10, our school focused on the PBL behaviour, "I complete all tasks to the best of my ability". This behaviour is an essential part of achieving success both in and out of the classroom, and we encourage all our students to embrace it, especially during the assessment period.

As we approached the end of the term, we had some fun pop-up events planned for the students. Students were able to participate in these events when they exchanged their completed gotcha cards. Students earned stamps for their gotcha cards for displaying positive behaviour throughout the school.

In Week 10, we had a water fight, which was the highlight of the term. Students were encouraged to bring a change of clothes and a towel so they could participate in the water fight safely. Additionally, we hosted a special breakfast on the last day of term, where students had the opportunity to enjoy a delicious breakfast with their peers and teachers. This event was a great opportunity for our students to socialise and build friendships while enjoying a well-deserved meal.

We are thrilled to see so many of our students embracing the PBL behaviours and making positive contributions to our school community. Keep up the fantastic work, Hughenden State School students!

Mr Mitch Henderson
PBL Leader

P&C News

At our recent AGM we thanked our previous committee and welcomed in our 2023 committee.

President:	Mr Clancy Haydon
Vice President:	Mr Jesse Holmstrom
Treasurer:	Mrs Shelley Vass
Assistant Treasurer:	Mrs Rebecca Cairns
Secretary:	Ms Victoria Horton

We spoke about the spending of grant monies with our major project being the concreting of the Secondary Eating area and the purchasing of seating for this area. We are once again supporting our sporting students who have been selected to attend the State Championships with their fees, cost of travel and accommodation. We are also supporting fundraising for the Year 5/6 Camp to Paluma in May. We will be catering for the breakfast for the Car Rally coming through in May, so will be calling on volunteers next term to assist.

We welcomed Tammy Bass back as our Tuckshop Convenor and have been enjoying her daily specials!

We invite you to attend our meetings and we encourage you to have a say in the direction of our school and your child's education.

Ms Victoria Horton
Secretary



Connecting with your teenagers.....

As our children grow older they spend more and more time away from home and become involved in activities that may be different to what we enjoyed at their age or expected as their parents. This can be challenging, particularly if you do not agree with how they spend their time or do not approve of the people they spend their time with.

It is often difficult to know what teenagers will find interesting and rewarding, and who they will get along with. No teenager is the same, so parents have to develop their own approach to encouraging and supporting their teen as they explore new relationships and activities.

A good starting point is modelling behaviour that you would like your teenager to follow as they are more likely to copy you and act this way themselves. It is also important for teenagers to learn things for themselves, including that all actions have consequences. As a parent, being as tolerant and accepting as you can if they make decisions that you don't agree with, and keeping communication channels open will aid with managing or avoiding undesirable behaviours and situations. Showing a genuine interest in your teenager, what they do and who they spend their time with will help to strengthen your relationships as long as it is done appropriately.

A major challenge as a parent is often getting the balance right. Simply hoping that your teenager will make appropriate decisions, avoid temptation and make the right choice in friends will not make it happen. Giving your teen too much unmonitored freedom and trusting their judgement completely may lead to them becoming involved in situations where they do not have the experience and skills to manage. However, restricting teenagers too much by not letting them decide on what they do, who they do it with and the type of person that are trying to become often leads to resentment and conflict.

These things might be useful in helping ensure you maintain a healthy connection with your teenager:

- Reach an agreement with your teenager on how much freedom will be allowed. Ensure you make time for regular family and individual discussions and encourage your teenager to express their views and opinions.
- Create a predictable and secure home environment so your teenager is not unsure what will happen next or how you will react to their behaviour.
- Provide your teenage with lots of affection and praise, being mindful that it is appropriate to their age and preferences. Most often when done around peers and in public they will feel embarrassed.
- Acknowledge your teenagers' efforts, there are lots of areas in your teenager's life where this can be done; their room, their behaviour with a sibling, their bookwork or even their hair. Do not wait until they have finished something or wait until they think that it is perfect to comment. Keep the praise brief but do it often and be genuine. Ensure that they are not too self-critical or dismissive in their efforts.
- Encourage goal setting. Avoid telling them "I told you so" if they do not achieve their goals with advice you have given or if they did not achieve their goal as planned.
- If parenting with a partner, back each other in front of your teen and have any disagreements about rules regarding freedom and parenting in private.

The Raising Children Network has more great information about communications and relationships with your teenager: <https://raisingchildren.net.au/teens/communicating-relationships>

Elle

School Based Youth Health Nurse

Semester 1 Sports Representatives



Holly, Ella and Tori

Mid West 10-12yrs Touch team members at North West trials in Barcaldine



Charlotte, Sienna and Bronte

Mid West 13-15yrs Netball team members at North West trials in Mt Isa



Jakeb, Goerge, Travis and Lawrence

Mid West 14/15yrs Rugby League team members at North West trials in Hughenden



Jackson, Jacob, Tori, Mac, Ella, Holly, Kaden, Lincoln, Mitchell and Kyle
HSS 11/12yrs Rugby League & 10-12yrs Touch team members at Mid West trials in Julia Creek



Tori, Lincoln, Mac, Jackson, and Ella
Mid West 11/12yrs Rugby League team members at North West trials in Hughenden



Henry, Kiah, Tayla, Lacey, Shantelle, Gabby, Evie, Holly and referee Bronte
HSS 10-12yrs Netball team members at Mid West trials in Hughenden

SAVE THE DATES!
MAY 5 - INTERHOUSE CROSS COUNTRY
JUNE 1 - INTEHROUSE ATHLETICS

Reminder: School fees must be paid in full prior to students attending sports trials / school camps / excursions