Chappy Chat!

Welcome to 2015!

Our historic group of Year 7’s and our new intake of Year 8’s have risen to the challenge of their new year with confidence. Before school, I’ve been chatting to Yr7 and Yr8 students. The first day seemed to have exceeded expectations! Students are feeling safe, well supported, find teachers very approachable and genuine and are confident to find their way around where necessary. The stress that was there on the first morning seems to have melted away. This bodes really well for their learning.

Our annual 2015 Tour de Chaplain is already on the discussion table. All students and members of the community are able to enjoy this beautiful ride whilst helping to raise money to support our youth through School Chaplaincy. As more details come to light, I will keep you informed.

2015 GSHS Alternate Schoolies is also happening this year! Any students interested in volunteering abroad for 2 weeks as their schoolies, please come and see Chappy Yvonne.

Welcome to 2015!

Two years ago we had an awesome trip to Sri Lanka! Students will help select this year’s destination. SU Schoolies also has an exciting range of alcohol and drug free Schoolies such as a surfing trip to Samoa, cruising the Whitsundays, chilling in Melbourne and more. Visit SU SCHOOLIES The Ultimate Way to Finish online and check out the possibilities. Much, much cheaper, safer and filled with action!

I am available to meet with parents as well as support their students and may be contacted through the school; ykamh2@eq.edu.au or my mobile 0417 743 016.

Yvonne.

NEW Smoking Ban Policy!

From January 1 next year smoking any tobacco products or using an electronic cigarette within five metres of any state or private school grounds has been banned. This applies before, during and after school hours as well as over weekends and school holidays.

On the spot fines can be issued by environmental health officers, police officers or other officers authorised by the local government to anyone found in breach of this legislation. The ban does not extend over businesses or residences that share a property boundary with a school.

Quick News

Messages for Students
Please make sure your child knows before they leave home in the morning to how they are getting home. If you require a message to be delivered to your child during the school day, it is necessary to let the office know before 2nd break which is 1.30pm. We understand that some messages after this time is unavoidable but also we would like you to be aware that these messages may not be conveyed to your child because of eg class changes where we cannot find where the teacher has gone with their class and are too late to get the message to them before they leave for the afternoon. We can only try our best to get these messages to your child so please be patient and understanding if a message does not make it to them.

Student Resource Scheme
Year 7/8 Invoices will be distributed within the next 2 weeks and will be posted home. We cannot receive payment until you have received these invoices.

Students Arriving Late
It is asked that all students make reasonable efforts to be in their Care Class on time. Students arriving late are expected to have a note of explanation from their parent / care giver or parents / caregiver to escort the student into the school. Parents are reminded that all late students even if they are only 5 minutes late are to be signed in by the office.

Buslink
Any parents requiring information about the Buses please contact Buslink on 4972 1670

Our last weeks of school was made all the better by the Year 8 Performing Arts Class’s performance of The Lion King. It was received brilliantly by the many Year 6 & 7s on Transition Day and the rest of the school also got to see it. There was positive feedback especially from former members of the Performing Arts Extension Program. The public performance was fantastic with around 300 people seeing the excellent work of the Year 8s. Big shout out to Ms Clifton, Miss McCulloch, Mrs Pitt, Miss Whitfield, Mrs Lolo and Miss Strudwick for their hardwork. Stay tuned for the whole school musical and this year’s Arts Academy junior musical!
Pizza Hut Gladstone
Pizza Hut Gladstone are looking for bubbly and motivated students that are keen to earn some money! Full training is provided and no experience necessary, available to all students 14 years and over. Please drop a resume in to the store and speak to Brett.

Position Vacant
There are positions vacant, one at Eagle Boys and an Apprenticeship at Aurizon. Also CQU have spaces in CII in Retail, Skincare and Makeup. If students are interested please see Mrs Christopoulos in Senior Schooling (K Block).

Work Experience 2015
The work experience placement programme for 2015 has commenced. Students wishing to do work experience can see Mrs Christopoulos in Senior Schooling for more information and forms. Senior Schooling has relocated to upstairs in K Block near the Tuckshop. Medical work experience is available in 2 blocks. Work experience at the Gladstone Ports Corporation Ltd is also available. These placements go very quickly, so get in early to avoid missing out.

Indian Brothers Restaurant
Indian Brothers Restaurant is a local business who requires casual front counter/waitstaff available to work evenings and weekends. Please drop your resume into Indian Brothers Restaurant 5/121 Toolooa St Gladstone. We also have available school based traineeships in hospitality available.

Greeting’s from our School Based Police Officer
My name is Andrew and I am the GSHS school based Police officer.

I come from a general duties policing background and have worked in Brisbane and Ingham. While my position is attached to the Gladstone Police Child Protection Investigation Unit, I am pretty much at GSHS Monday to Friday during school hours. My office is located opposite the Administration building in D block, next to the school chaplain.

I investigate any criminal matters that happen at school, as well as act as a liaison between the child protection investigation unit and students. I am also available to speak with parents and students about any other areas of concern that they may have.

I’m looking forward to another great year ahead, and I hope all the students make the most of the opportunities offered to them at GSHS.

Canberra Trip 2014
We loaded the bus with much excitement and anticipation for the long trip to Canberra. With 75 students, five teachers and four bus drivers, we were a sizeable bunch to say the least. With the first of many roll calls we were on our way. After travelling all night we arrived in Sydney for breakfast.

We visited Taronga Zoo, took the ferry to Circular Quay, posed for a group photo on the Opera House steps then boarded the bus once again for the final stretch to Canberra but not before driving over Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Day two began in a flurry with breakfast at 7am then off to the National Museum of Australia – we all wished we had more time to see the amazing displays but time was limited with so much to see. Old Parliament House and Parliament House were the highlights of the day – we were fortunate enough to see question time in the House of Representatives and a ballot take place in the Senate. The view from Mount Ainsley lookout was spectacular and once again, we took lots of photographs. The day was topped off with a visit to Questacon where we participated in hands-on activities and challenged ourselves physically and mentally.

Day three began with our visit to the Australian War Memorial. We were in awe of the sacrifice that these men and women made. The displays were so informative and realistic it was hard not to reflect on the actions of our brave men and women who fought for and are still fighting for our freedom. After lunch we visited the High Court of Australia then Black Mountain Tower. We all really enjoyed the Ice Skating and even some of the teachers had a go!

Our final day was spent visiting the Supreme and Magistrates Courts where we were able to go into the court rooms and view the proceedings. The National Film and Sound archives and the National Archives were informative but we were all hanging out for the one hour shopping time at Canberra Centre.

We wish to thank the teachers, bus drivers, P and C and our parents for providing us with the opportunity to go to Canberra. It was a truly amazing trip that we will never forget. Our thanks also goes to the Australian Government for their financial contribution as outlined below.

PACER REBATE
While in Canberra, students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government contributed funding of $80.00 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.
Quick News

Signing Out Early

Parents are asked, where possible, to avoid making appointments for your student during school hours. However, if this occurs it is the student’s responsibility to catch up on work that is missed. Parents are reminded that if you are signing your student out it must be done through the office. If you meet your student at the gate, then our records will show the student as truanting.

Boundaries

Please be aware that the boundaries of the school are out of bounds for students during the school day. This is in the interest of the safety of students so that we can ensure anyone making contact with students does so through Administration. The school has a responsibility to minimise the risk of inappropriate interactions between students and people from outside the school community. Recently, a number of students have had food delivered in Quarry Street and as this is out of bounds, students will be given a detention for being in this area. This is being communicated to students through year level assemblies. If parents/carers need to drop off lunch for students, please do so through Administration. Please be aware that the school canteen has a large range of food options that meet the guidelines set down by the Education Department. The canteen also has a good range of breakfast options available before school.

Homestay Families

We are currently recruiting more Homestay Families to register for our International Student Program. It is a wonderful opportunity for local families to learn more about other countries and their cultures. Enquiries welcomed for students arriving in Term 2, 2015
Options of: 3 months, 6 months, 9 months or 12 months placements Payment of $212 (tax free) per week for Homestay Families

Major Requirements
• Caring English speaking family willing to take a student into your home and fully integrate them with your family for the duration of their stay.
• Provide the student with individual bedroom which includes desk and chair.
• All meals and snacks must be provided.
• Access to internet. Students may bring their own laptop.
• Easy access to Gladstone State High School.
• All persons over the age of 18 living in your home must be eligible for Blue Card Suitability Check. We can assist you with the application.

For further information please contact:
Vanessa Randazzo or Lorraine McCamley
International Student Coordinator International Homestay Coordinator
Ph 4976 6161 Ph 4976 6104
Email: vrand2@eq.edu.au Email: lmcca39@eq.edu.au

‘We had a spare room and it was a great opportunity to learn about other countries and cultures. We’ll definitely get another international student.’ GSHS Host family

‘My host family became something like a real family for me and I was very lucky to get involved in every family activity like waterskiing, watch netball and soccer games of my siblings and having a hand while doing my assignments! They took me to many wonderful places …’ International student

School Photos

School photos will be taken on the following days in Resource Centre:

Tuesday 17 February: Years 7 – 12; Rotation Technical College; SEU students
Monday 2 March: Rotation Technical College; Students absent on 17 February

All students are photographed for ID purposes free of charge even if they do not intend to order portrait packages. 2014 ID card will not be current after 31 March this year.

Uniform
Uniform for photographs is as follows:
Years 8 – 11: School polo shirt (buttoned to the second button) with shorts/skirt.
Year 12: School formal shirt (not polo shirt) worn with tie. Blazers will be provided by school.

Technical College: Technical College polo shirt

Students will be asked to remove any jewellery not permitted by the uniform policy.

Portrait orders
Order envelopes and information about costs need to be handed to every student. Students ordering photographs should fill the envelope out, enclose cash (exact payment), cheque or credit details and present to the photographers at the session ON THE DAY. Each student ordering portraits must return their own completed envelope even if payment is made through an older sibling’s envelope. No payment will be taken by office or Resource Centre staff.

Please direct any questions to Sheryl Hipathite in the Resource Centre.
ARTIE is back for 2015!
ARTIE (Achieving Results Through Indigenous Education) Academy is an Australian Government supported program that rewards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students for improvements in school attendance, behaviour, academic achievement, effort and ultimately Year 12 attainment or its equivalent. Founded in 2010 and named in honour of our most significant Former Origin Great, Arthur Beetson OAM, the ARTIE Academy is much more than an education program. It is a living testament to the first Indigenous captain of an Australia sporting team. A man who was an inspiration and role model for his people, Arthur was resolute in his beliefs about the absolute need for young Indigenous Australians to be educated, to finish school and to gain employment. The ARTIE Academy expects students to achieve to the best of their ability and is there to support them in times of need. Paula McDonald, ARTIE Academy Education Coordinator for the CQ region, will be bringing ARTIE to Gladstone State High School every Tuesday and Friday morning. Feel free to contact her via email at paulam@fogs.com.au for more information about the ARTIE Academy.

PROCEDURE FOR STUDENT ABSENCES
If your student is away for any reason there are several ways of notifying the school.

- Phone on 07 4976 6158
- Email on absentees@gladstonshs.eq.edu.au
- Use the notification slip in the Newsletter each week
- Use the slip in your student’s diary
- Text absences on 0407096034

We appreciate and thank-you for your cooperation.

**GSHS CORE VALUES**

**VALUES**
To empower students to reach their full potential through quality learning experiences in a supportive and challenging school environment.

**RESPONSIBILITY**
- Give your best
- Be dependable
- Make appropriate choices
- Be fair • Have a go
- Take your opportunity to lead, otherwise be a good team member

**EXCELLENCE**
- Doing your best
- Seek to accomplish something worthy and admirable
- Try hard
- Keep trying and pursue excellence
- Expect high standards

**RESPECT**
- Value yourself and others
- Respect your environment
- Act and speak courteously to everyone
- Be kind to animals
- Foster good relationships
- Foster school pride

**HONESTY**
- Be truthful and sincere
- Be trustworthy
- Admit your mistakes
- Learn by your mistakes
- Seek truth, good and right

**SAFETY**
- Look out for yourself and others
- Practice safe and hygiene habits
- Follow the rules