

Principal's Welcome

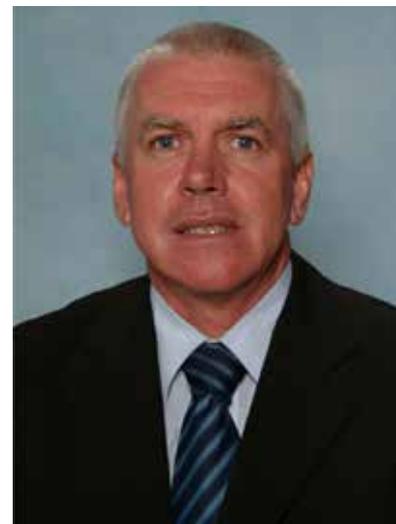
Semester 1 has drawn to a close with students moving in to a time where assessment is happening in the form of assignments, in class tests and for some senior classes extended exams in a formal exam block in the last week of the semester. I wish all of our students all the best in doing their best in these very important assessment tasks.

Year 12 Interviews – “Ensuring the ‘main game’ remains the main game”

Vocational Pathway Students have had their second opportunity to meet with Mrs Wenban this term to assess their current position in terms of being on track to gain their required credits to ensure they will receive their Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) on exit from Year 12. Students have been provided with an online QCE tracking tool that allows them to enter their current results and do a self-audit to determine their ongoing QCE position. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with their child and contact Mrs Wenban if there are any questions or

concerns. Students that have been identified as being at risk of not receiving their QCE have had individual plans developed to resolve this. The students must take personal responsibility to ensure these plans are followed.

Authority Pathway Students have all had individual interviews with me. During these interviews students discussed their career ambitions and preferences for universities and their courses of study. Reflecting on these individual ambitions we then determined what their OP goals were and where their current academic performance would place them in terms of an OP. With all of this then firmly in their minds students then set about explaining to me their improvement strategies and goals to get the best OP they can. Without doubt the keys to all of the students’ success will lie with their commitment to studies and their ongoing relationship with their teachers. Parents also play a key role in ensuring students are supported in their study routines and practices. Parents are encouraged to



discuss this with their students and ask them for a copy of their interview sheets that contain notes of our conversation.

Semester 1 Reports

All students will receive their Semester 1 reports in the first week of Semester 2. Parents and Carers are encouraged to take advantage of our Parent/Student/Teacher Interview evening in week 2 on Thursday 24 July. Further information on booking appointments with teachers will be available with your students’ report.



- Key Priorities**
1. Improved student achievement
 2. Improved student attendance
 3. Improved parent and carer engagement
 4. Targeted quality professional development with a focus on Explicit Instruction
 5. Implementation of and preparation for the Australian Curriculum in the classrooms

A new era for agriculture at SSHS

After 11 years of faithful service the Agricultural Department at Stanthorpe State High School has recently replaced the 70 horsepower Landini Rex with a 76 horsepower T4030 New Holland. During this time many of our past and present students have developed both skill sets in tractor and machinery operation and ‘Nationally Accredited’ competencies that have enabled them to receive Certificate II’s in Agriculture, Horticulture and Wine Industry Operation. Updating tractors is important so that the students can keep pace with improvements in technology. I would like to thank all local dealers for their time and effort in the tendering process.



Pictured: Warren Franklin (Head of Department: Agriculture) accepting the delivery of the T4030 New Holland from Mario Marino from Pierpoint Motors.

Students develop fashion sense

The Year 12 Home Economics students have recently completed a Fashion and Design unit of work. Initially studying how the Elements and Principles of Design applied to their own body shape, student then put theory into practice and constructed their own outfit.

Many students are unfamiliar with clothing construction having sewn items for their bedrooms or lounge rooms before but unfamiliar with dressmaking. It was a challenge but immensely satisfying. The Year 12’s are thrilled with their one-of-a-kind creations and many want to try it again.



Emily Lanza and Shenae Marsden model their dresses.

Lest we forget

On Anzac Day Stanthorpe High School certainly took the time to remember the soldiers who have fought for our country. Our students were well represented in all district services with over 100 students participating in the Stanthorpe march alone.

On Thursday 24 April the school assembled in the stadium for a short, touching ceremony. This year we paid tribute to The Vietnam War which was Australia's longest and most controversial military engagement of the 20th century. It provoked deep divisions in Australian society and politics. Many young Australian men were conscripted for overseas service and many of them died. Approximately 60 000 Australian soldiers served in the Vietnam War. More

than 3000 were wounded. 521 Australian soldiers were killed.

You could have heard a pin drop while Georgia Marcus, Emma Beecham and Justin Markosky performed "I Was Only 19". Our school captains did an excellent job of conducting the ceremony and we thank Jonno Bushby for performing "The Last Post" and "The Reveille".

A wreath was laid at the Stanthorpe Dawn Service by our school captains also attended by Mr Grant and Mr Cole.

Our students were representative in all marches and services at Stanthorpe, Liston, Wallangarra and Ballandean.

School captains Kate Draheim and Jeremy Burnell represented our school proudly by reading the Resolution at the Stanthorpe Anzac



Stanthorpe State High School leaders laying the Wreath on Anzac Day.

Ceremony. They were later joined by Kate Hall, Jake Muller and Mr Grant during the wreath laying ceremony which followed.

Anzac Day is a sombre day of reflection and remembrance. In all of the ceremonies in which Stanthorpe High School

participated, the appropriate amount of respect and reflection was shown by our students. Many more students from our school attended ceremonies with their families without representing the school. This is something for which we also need to feel proud.

SSHS Cross Country 2014

Despite the cool and slightly damp conditions, students managed to put in a great effort for their respective House at the Stanthorpe State High School annual Cross Country event.

The House Captains started the day by decorating the course in House colours. This was an excellent addition to this year's carnival and helped the runners keep going as support for them was around the entire course!

Battling it out over 3km, 4km or 6km, the students were out to gain valuable points in their attempt to win Champion House. The scoring system is based on places as well points. Each runner can earn points for their house by finishing within designated time frames. This is a great way for even slower runners to

be part of the team and earn valuable points for their house.

Students ran alongside a number of teachers including Mr Walker, Mrs Campbell, Mrs Kloppers, Mr Grant, Mrs Moore, Ms Dearden, Mr Hall and Mr Yates. Even though Mrs Campbell and Mrs Kloppers made their mark on the girls race, Mr Yates was pipped at the post by Bradley Britton. Lots of fun was had by all who participated and put in the effort to complete the course.

For the 5th year in a row, Finch stamped their authority on the Cross Country by taking out Champion House as well as the Teams Event trophy. Wright House gets a mention for pushing Finch all the way in what was a very close battle.



Congratulations must go to the following students who gained Age Champion and Runners Up this year:

Group	Age Champion	Runner Up
13 yrs	Kira Dawson, Kye Watson	Morgan O'Brien, Jake Burnell
14 yrs	Steff Goodwin, Bradley Luland	Samantha Gianini, Mason Picknell
15 yrs	Sophie Hilton, Ethan Wenban	Tenille Hutchin, Ashley Jones
16 yrs	Melissa Botha, Bradley Britton	Michelle Gatuteo, Callum Rihan
17/18 yrs	Phoebe Hilton, Lachlan Knight	Chloe Moore, Lachlan Lange



Amazing Accounting

On Monday 2 June, the Year 11 and 12 Accounting students were fortunate to receive a visit from Paul Hilton, the CEO of Power Tynan accounting. In his presentation the students were offered his pearls of wisdom in the area of Accounting – emphasising that the work that they are doing at school is in fact “real-life accounting”. He then offered the students an amazing opportunity: In conjunction with USQ, Power Tynan is offering students a scholarship in which they would be employed full-time by Power Tynan Stanthorpe or Toowoomba whilst undertaking their Accounting degree – fully funded! A number of students showed a lot of interest in what Mr Hilton had to say and may now have an idea of a possible career path that they could follow. Power Tynan continues to show support for the education of young people and sponsors the Power Tynan Accounting award which will be given to the top accounting student on awards night later this year.



Paul Hilton presenting to Accounting students.

Year 6/7 Open Afternoons

Three Open Afternoons for Year 6 and 7 students and their parents who will commence their Junior Secondary education in 2015 occurred this term. A guided tour of the school and its facilities was conducted to highlight the Junior Secondary Precinct and to give students and parents a sense of what their new school will be like in 2015. The tour highlighted the Junior Secondary teaching rooms as well as specialist learning areas and outdoor recreation

areas. During the presentation that followed, staff members of the Junior Secondary Leadership team were introduced to outline the guiding principles around preparations for 2015. These include distinct Junior Secondary identity, curriculum and extra-curricular offerings, pastoral care, activities, teachers and precinct areas. The Year 7 and 8 Year Level coordinators outlined their roles and provided information on the school camps.

Californian Tourers meet Vintage Car Enthusiasts

When the Chevrolet Vintage Car Club rolled in to town on Monday, the students who are travelling to California in September were there to provide them with information about the local area

and to share experiences and provide a BBQ lunch. A student team were set the task of judging the 80 cars in an ongoing tour competition –the team knew little about cars so the criteria they

chose were colour, shape and comfort! Many of the club have travelled to the United States so the students were able to ask many questions about what they will experience on their tour. The

Club members were impressed with our students’ enthusiasm, personal presentation and teamwork. We thank the Club for allowing us to be involved in their Tour of the Granite Belt.



California students meeting the Vintage Car Club members.

Another successful Red Shield Appeal

Twenty-five students, five staff and a parent from Stanthorpe High stepped up to help with the recent Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal, door knocking and driving around Stanthorpe on Sunday morning. With their help, over \$4000 was raised on the day, about 15% more than was raised last year. Congratulations to students and our broader school community for clearly demonstrating care and commitment to helping those in need in our town and thanks to Sandra Kay and the Salvos for your tireless efforts.



Students helping collect money for the Salvation Army.



Cividale del Friuli students successful visit to Stanthorpe

After a five-year hiatus, students from our exchange school in Cividale del Friuli, Italy recently enjoyed a cultural and language exchange tour to Stanthorpe. Billed with families involved in our Italian Immersion program, the students experienced a slice of Australian family life, staying for just under two weeks.

Students attended regular classes at Stanthorpe High with their billeting buddy, as well as experiencing Granite Belt delights such as Suttons Apple Farm and The Bramble Patch. There was no shortage of good Aussie beef over several BBQs and their visit was capped off with an excellent dinner at the Queensland College of Wine Tourism.

Cividale students also experienced

the wonders of Aussie sheep dogs, with Queensland Title winner, Gary Hurtz showing them what his dogs can do. They made and feasted upon lamingtons and even recorded a radio program with local Ten FM Italian Language presenter, Maria Mastro, which will be broadcast in the near future. On the weekend of their stay, billeting families took their guests to the Gold or Sunshine Coasts, giving the Italian students an Aussie surf experience to remember.

Thanks to staff, students, parents and members of the Granite Belt community who combined to make this exchange such a success. We now look forward to our next visit to Cividale in September where new friendships will be rekindled.



Hospitality students cater for two day conference

Thursday and Friday last week saw the Year 12 Certificate III in Hospitality class cater for a 2 day Profiling Conference. Teachers came from all over South West Queensland to participate and commented on the appearance, attitude and friendliness of the students. Students had to plan the conference menu, provide costings, prepare, cook and serve it to the conference participants. Their menu included homemade sausage rolls, jam drops, zucchini slice, pumpkin soup, minestrone, chicken & leek casserole served with couscous as well as fruit platters, mini cakes, apple muffins and espresso coffee. Students are required to complete 36 service periods to achieve their Certificate III in Hospitality and if conducted at school these must reflect real work practices.

Hospitality teacher Mrs Melissa Pascoe said “getting the students involved in all facets of catering for a conference is a fantastic opportunity as it involves both front and back-of-house learning experiences. The conference delegates were glowing in their reports of both the food and their service skills which is a credit to them all.”



Jaden O'Donnell and Alannah Drayton preparing espresso coffee for conference delegates.

Well done Jesse

Congratulations to Jesse Wallace for his outstanding achievements at the recent Queensland Secondary Schools Swimming Championships. Jesse attended the Championships in



Brisbane over March 27th – 30th. He competed in eight events and won eight gold medals. Along with achieving a personal best in the 50m Freestyle, he managed to break the Queensland record as well as the Australian age record for the 50m multi-class Breaststroke event. The other gold medals he won were in the 50m Backstroke, 50m Butterfly, 100m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke, 200m IM and the 200m Freestyle.

Jesse will now be training in Warwick in preparation for the National Schools Swimming Championships which will be held in July in Melbourne. Great work Jesse and all the best for Nationals.

Ag students learn the about of bees

This term is all about bees for the year 10 Agriculture class. We have been busy painting bee hives, building frames and wiring frames for the bees to build their comb on top of the foundation wax. One student came up with the expression ‘no bees, no trees, no oxygen, no life’ which is very true. Apiculture, which refers to beekeeping and honey production, is worth about \$55 million dollars in retail honey sales nationally, and approximately \$8 million dollars in by-products. Australia produces approximately 30 000 tonnes of honey every year and is the fourth largest exporter of honey, with between 25% to 50% sold overseas each year.

Bees play a vital role in the pollination of agricultural crops – human survival is dependent on the work of bees. Pollen is picked up in combs on their legs, which then brushes against the female part of a flower, leading to fertilisation of the flower and the subsequent production of fruit and vegetables. The students have the opportunity to examine bee behaviour up close with the school’s own hives. In spite of a dry summer, there was also opportunity to try some of school honey – which most of us loved to do!



Year 10 Agriculture students painting the bee hives.