On behalf of school staff I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new and returning school families. Just like our year 7 students, I have been on a steep learning curve being a newcomer to Tully State High. In terms of my role you may recall that Ms Fox accepted a position as Principal of Parramatta State School at the end of 2015 and I am in an acting position as a result. The Principal position will either be filled by relocation or will be advertised in the next couple of weeks for permanent fill for the commencement of Term 2.

In my very small number of days here so far I have interacted with a range of students and members of the school community who have made me very welcome. It is pleasing to say that our numbers at the school are the highest for many years and our grade 7 cohort has required an extra class this year compared to 2015.

It is great to see that many of our graduating students from 2015 have accepted University positions: Nurses, teachers, architects, scientists, psychologists and so on. Many of our students have been successful in obtaining apprenticeship employment at the Power Station and at Tully Sugar Mill.

A special congratulations to our OP1 student Caitlin Welsh and to all of our other students who achieved excellent OP’s.

We look forward to another year filled with the joy of learning and delivering the aspirations our students are striving to realise.

In my discussions on parades and with students I have continued to emphasise the 4 core values which underpin how we operate.

- SAFE
- RESPECTFUL
- RESPONSIBLE
- LEARNER

In particular, I have focused on how to be an effective learner in my first couple of weeks. I look forward to meeting with you in due time and remind parents that the first P&C meeting is time tabled for Tuesday 16th February commencing at 4.30 pm in the Tully State High School Library.
The library has been the place to be since school returned for 2016. Literally hundreds of students have sought refuge from the heat – reading, catching up with friends, playing chess and chilling.

Mr Graham, the Acting Principal, enjoyed a game of chess with senior student Jake Perkins which rapidly became a major spectator event.

At this stage of the term, students are able to access the desktop computers for work before school and at both breaks.

On Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays in first break, if the desktops are not being used for assignment work, students are able to play Cool Math Games. Later in the term, times will be set aside for quiet study. Other games available at lunchtimes are Connect 4 and Mastermind. All students are welcome in the library.

Precise teaching in English

Students who are performing a number of years below their peers have an Individual Curriculum Plan (ICP). After the success of the ICPs to engage and teach students at their level in English last year, the plans have been revised for 2016.

Teachers of year 8 worked together in the student free days to read the 2015 RAFTing books and assessment work of their students. Together with the Head of Teaching and Learning, they then matched the work against the National Standards documents and revised each student’s individual goals. A number of students had improved to such an extent that they no longer need individual plans and will be able to work at the same level of their peers with only slight modifications to the assessment tasks. Some students reached their goals, and new goals have been set. A few students are still working on the individual goals set last year. If your child was on an ICP last year, look out for a letter in the coming weeks to indicate their new goals.

Years 7 and 9 students are all engaged in NAPLAN preparation through explicit teaching of reading, grammar, and in particular, narrative and persuasive writing. Decisions will be made in April about which year 7 and 9 students need ICPs for their classwork in English.

Year 10 students who were on an ICP in year 9, no longer need one as they are studying a foundation course in English rather than the core course. If you have any questions about English, please call during office hours.
Maths Quiz:
How can you cook an egg for exactly 15 minutes using only a 7 minute hourglass and an 11 minute hourglass?

If you have a solution to the problem please drop it in to the SP staffroom, or email a solution to Mr Brown at mbrow499@eq.edu.au.

Instrumental Music News.

Musicians! Welcome back for 2016! Make sure all your enrolment forms etc are filled out and handed in. Band practice has started on Tuesday afternoons and our first performance will be for the Senior Induction in Week 5.

Book Club 2016

Welcome to the year 7’s and to our keen readers in particular. The school is happy to continue making scholastic Book Club available to students and their families and staff.

Each term, 2 catalogues arrive at the school and may be collected from the front counter of the library. This year the catalogue caters to ages from 3+ right through to 12+.

To make ordering easier Scholastic introduced LOOP in 2015. After downloading the free app from the app store parents may simply order and pay online. These online orders are added to and sent with the school order. Students are notified through the school notices when books have arrived for collection.

Alternatively, students may fill in the order form and take this along with payment to Mrs Norman in the office.

The first catalogue of the year has arrived and orders and money are due by Monday 15th February.

The school receives points according to the value of our total order and these points are used to purchase more resources for our school library.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me on 4068 4509 or at twood85@eq.edu.au.

Happy Reading.

Tiffany Wood

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Aiden Porter and Khy Millwood who both travelled away at the end of last year for U12 and U14 Peninsula Cricket respectively. Both boys enjoyed the fierceness of competitions against the larger regions in our great state. This is a wonderful achievement and recognition of the hard work done by local cricket clubs. Well done boys!
NQ School Photography will be taking our school photographs this year on **Monday 15th February**.

Order Online at [www.nqsp.com.au](http://www.nqsp.com.au) using this shoot key **MC27DK3H** or return the paper order form your child will receive to our photographers on photo day.

Sibling photos will still need to be ordered via paper order forms (available in the school office).

**Lost Signet Ring**

This ring went missing July last year, but we thought we'd just put it out there anyway to see if anyone may have come across it. Lost in the Tully area or even perhaps at the Tully High School. It was Mr Stewart's great grandfather’s ring and has the initials 'JS' engraved on it. It would bring much joy to find it again - reward offered.

The 2015 edition of WALTYKIMA is available for purchase from the office for $25. The 2015 magazine was compiled by the Year 10 Media Studies class as part of their Print Media and Publishing unit. Students were responsible for the layout and design of the pages using Adobe Indesign desktop publishing software. Students also edited articles, took photographs and generated graphics and artwork. Callem Daley’s cover artwork is a notable element of this year’s edition. It features Southpark-inspired caricatures of staff. See if you can work out who is who on the cover.

**Notices & Events**

- **12th February** Tully State High School Swimming Carnival.
- **15th February** School Photos.
- **16th February** P & C Meeting @ 4.30 pm in the Library.
- **17th—19th February** Year 7 Camp.