



TSHS News

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"If you do what you've always done, you'll get what you've always gotten." – Tony Robbins

Week 2 Friday February 7th 2014

Great teachers = Great results

This year sees the start of the rollout of a raft of new initiatives and accountabilities in schools. Great teachers = Great results is the Queensland Government's five-year, \$537 million action plan for all Queensland schools which focuses on directing funding and resources where they are needed most. The Queensland Government is committed to lifting teaching standards and giving schools more autonomy so they can get on with the job of providing a safe and supportive learning environment and the best educational outcomes for their students. Areas targeted for improvement include:

- Professional excellence in teaching
- Boosting school autonomy: independence for all schools, developing schools and school leaders to assume increased autonomy
- Strengthening discipline in schools

As part of this initiative, additional funding is being invested in Queensland's 1233 state and Independent Public schools. To receive this funding (Tully SHS is set to receive \$64,000) we must complete an agreement committing to guaranteeing that every student will either achieve the National Minimum Standard for literacy and numeracy for year 9 or have an evidenced-based plan to address their specific learning difficulties. Next week we will be commencing a '**Literacy & Numeracy Bootcamp**' for targeted students in year 9. Students identified for this program include those who did not attain NMS in Year 7 or have not succeeded in English and Maths. The Bootcamp will provide intensive work on Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation, number facts and various maths concepts for a full school day every week. Sessions will be delivered by five of our best and most experienced Maths and English teachers. Students will then be tutored by a teacher aide on a daily basis to reinforce this work. Parents of identified students will be contacted and provided with more details.



Ms Nancy Grainger
Literacy



Mr Rob O'Brien
Deputy Principal



Mr Aidan Richters
Numeracy



Mr Russell James
Maths



Ms Kathy Macdonald
Literacy



Mr Robbie Williams
Literacy

Tully State High School acknowledges, values and pays respect to the first peoples on whose land we live, work and learn believing through education and reconciliation we walk together as partners toward a better future for all.

Dorante Sisters Broaden Their Horizons

School Captain Kathryn Dorante, and her sister Alex participated in valuable learning experiences over the summer vacation.

Kathryn participated in work experience at the Cairns Law Courts. She shadowed a Judge's Associate for a week in the Supreme and District Court. Kat said, 'the experience was extremely rewarding, and as a result I will consider studying law'. The program targets Year 11 and 12 Indigenous students. Past student, Leonee Thompson, participated in 2012. Both girls recommend this opportunity to any Indigenous student.

In January, Alex was fortunate to attend University of Queensland's "Inspire U Engineering" Summer Experience for Indigenous Australians. Current engineering students and staff of UQ coordinated the course. Alex thoroughly enjoyed staying on campus and being involved in the range of engineering related activities. Climbing the Storey Bridge was also a highlight – no doubt there were many discussions about the engineering involved in such a piece of infrastructure. Alex found the experience rewarding and as a result will consider engineering as a career option.



English News

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, all year 8 - 10 students are beginning the year with a refresher course on basic grammar and punctuation. The students were pre-tested on the first day, and specific weaknesses are being targeted through consolidation of essential skills at the start of each lesson. In addition, the following areas are being explicitly taught: simple, compound and complex sentences, relative pronouns, fragments and run-ons, and apostrophe use. It has been fantastic to see all classes underway with a common language for discussing how to improve their writing. **Check out your child's English book!** These notes will be an important source of information, both to study for the post test (at the end of week 3), and as a reference point for any written work they are doing.

Reading strategies such as predicting, connecting, chunking and making inferences are also being explicitly taught in years 8 and 9.

Sports News

The District Sports Calendar can be located on the Tully State High School Facebook page and is posted outside the PE staffroom. Students need to continue to listen to daily notices for upcoming sports. For any questions regarding sport, please speak to Miss Bevan.

Introducing...

Hi all,

My name is Robbie Williams. I am Head of Inclusive Education at Tully State High this year. I have transferred from Yarrabah State School. I am looking forward to working with the students of Tully State High School. My hobbies include fishing and exercise. I have a strong passion for rugby league. I have been involved with the Northern Pride Academy in a coaching role and also heavily involved in district sport over the past few years. You may even see me dust off the boots to have a run with the Tully Tigers at some stage this year.



Reminder: We are hosting an afternoon tea from 4:30pm – 6:00pm in the Interactive Learning Precinct on Wednesday the 12th February to meet and mingle with the parents of our students. I look forward to seeing you there.

Guidance News...

I hope everyone had a relaxing break with their families and are feeling energised to commence the school year.

A number of students have taken positive steps to change subjects to ensure their continued success at Tully High School. The last day for subject changes to occur is this Friday. It is important students, especially in the senior year, choose subjects that will give them the best result in order not to affect their QCE.

I will be holding a study skills workshop on Wednesday 12th February first break in SP01 for years 11 and 12. Please bring your lunch, your timetable and your love of learning strength. Another workshop will also be held Thursday 13th February for years 8, 9 and 10.

The students in grade 10, 11 and 12 are currently learning about their strengths. Research has shown if you use your strengths every day, you will lead a happier life and flourish. Parents/carers, what act gives you an energetic buzz when you are doing them? These activities are very likely calling on your strengths.

I congratulate the 2013, year 12 cohort on their success in gaining entry into university and for those students who have secured apprenticeships. Well Done.

Sally Chilcott

Guidance Officer

Year 12 Students

Career opportunity in the transport industry

Tuesday February 11th 5:30 – 6:30 pm information session for parents and students

Phase 1 – providing information to students and parents
Information evening
Excursion to local businesses willing to support program
Student Expression of Interest to be engaged in program

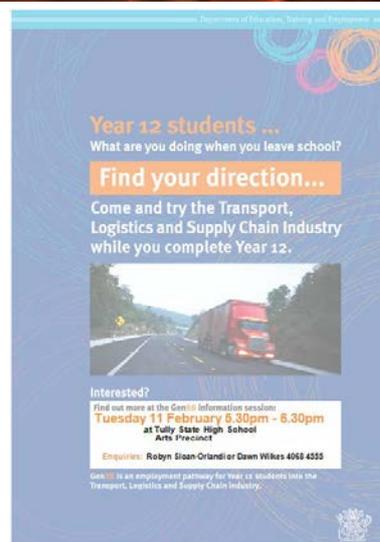
Phase 2 – work placement
Student to attend work placement one day per week – terms 2 & 3
Certificate II in Logistics - TAFE – 2 weeks

Phase 3 – completion
Completion of Certificate II in Logistics
Transition to workforce

GenR8 is an industry and business, demand driven recruitment model focused on youth attraction and retention. It involves -

- Industry awareness and connectivity
- a nationally recognised qualification
- industry work placement; and
- industry employment opportunities

GenR8 has been in operation for 3 years and has seen significant growth and success in terms of industry/employer investment and employer/school collaboration over that period. Employers based in the Brisbane Region are now requesting GenR8 be expanded to their regional depots throughout Queensland. In addition, through the support of the Queensland Trucking Association, more and more employers are seeing the benefits of GenR8 as a recruitment method to attract, train and retain youth into their ageing industry sector.



From the Nurse's Desk

It's time for 'the other talk'

The Australian Drug Foundation has launched a new website to help parents to have 'The Other Talk' with their children about alcohol and other drugs. Parents are familiar with the talk about sex, now it's time to have a different talk. The site is a first port of call for families, with information that can make having The Other Talk easier.

Visit: www.theothertalk.org.au (*Of Substance: The National Magazine on Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs*, 2013, vol.11, no. 3, pp.5)

Notices & Events

7 February	Last day for subject changes years 8 & 9
11 February	Last day for subject changes year 10, 11 & 12
12 February	Inclusive Education Afternoon Tea 4:30pm—6:00pm
12 February	Year 8 Meet & Greet BBQ 5.00-6.30
12 February	Study Skills Workshop for 11 & 12 students 1st break in SP01
13 February	Study Skills Workshop for 8, 9 & 10 students
11 February	P and C meeting- 5pm Library- 'Great Teaching Guarantee' to be main agenda item.