



NEWSLETTER

WELCOME

Welcome back to a new school year! We would like to extend a very special welcome to all of our new families who are joining Quakers Hill Public School for the first time and our new kindergarten students who have settled in so well.

With student wellbeing at the fore, QHPS is a school where every child is known, valued and cared for. We are committed to promoting equity and excellence, so each and every student is provided with the very best education and the opportunity to reach their full potential. Underpinned by the school banner statement *Innovation-Excellence-Success*, QHPS is at the forefront of education and a catalyst for innovation within the community. Our staff wholeheartedly embrace the school's philosophy; striving for excellence, providing all students with a high-quality and future-relevant education, and preparing them for rewarding and productive lives in an increasingly complex world. We lead, nurture and inspire students, staff and the school community to *imagine* the endless possibilities, *believe* in themselves and the possibilities and *create* these possibilities.

Here at Quakers Hill Public School we design and implement effective learning spaces that are: *open* to encourage student freedom, movement and collaboration, *varied* to support different pedagogical approaches and the different learning needs of students, *flexible* so furniture can be rearranged to create different learning spaces at different times and

integrated with technologies that encourage student-centred learning.

This year we welcome **Miss Shonah Gibson** to Quakers Hill Public School as **Relieving Deputy Principal**. Miss Gibson is an exceptional educator and leader who comes to us with a wealth of knowledge, experience and skills in the areas of student welfare, working with the community and leadership.



COMMUNICATION

Throughout the year, if you need to discuss issues concerning your child, please speak with your child's class teacher in the first instance and then to the Stage Assistant Principal who has direct responsibility for supporting and supervising the classes, students and staff.

Class	Staff	Executive
Principal	Bert Lo Campo	
DP	Rosannagh Ryan	
DP	Shonah Gibson	
Early Stage 1		
K Purple	Donna Jackson	Amal Wahhab ES1 AP
K Green	Brittany Kenny	
K Yellow	Rachel Batten	
K White	Amy Burgess	
K Orange	Amal Wahhab	
K Red	Jessica Darney	
K Blue	Cassie Jovic M-T/Therese Virveste W-F	
Stage 1		
1WA	Laura Weatherburn M-W/Alicia Amodeo Th-F	Kristine Belista Year 1 AP
1HM	Karen Hofmann M-W/Jenny Mackinnon Th-F	
1S	Samantha Briggs	
1D	Arianne Daloran	
1H	Tamika Hoogstraten	
1B	Kristine Belista	
12M	Karyn McDonald	David Abbey Year 2 AP
2S	Sarah Malcolm	
2L	Sophia Levack	
2M	Aisha Masud	
2J	Jodie Delanoue	
2C	Brooke Cowey	
2D	David Abbey	
Stage 2		
3E	Mackayla Edwards	Katherine Meiring Stage 2 AP
3B	Charisse Belista	
3L	Rachel Leclair	
3H	Jasmine Heyden	
34C	Tanya Crisafulli	
34N	Jenny Ng	
4T	Jessica Tolson	
4A	Jessica Alexander	
4M	Katherine Meiring	
4D	Rachelle Doko	
Stage 3		
5M	Michael Stewart	Jared Madden Stage 3 AP
5A	Alyssa Marquez	
5S	Melissa Sutton M-Th/Tia Sciberras F	
5H	Melissa Hale	
5V	Vanessa Stuart	
56G	Kylie Gallagher	
56B	Shannon Brehony	
6P	Wendy Poole	
6J	Jared Madden	
6M	Nicole Morley	
6S	Colleen Soper	
Librarian	Michelle Kotowski	
Instructional Leaders	Michelle Durrington M-W/Robyn Simmons M + Th	
Support/RFF Teachers	Maryanne Cole/Toby Hynes/Will Dorrell/ Shara Clayton-Bollard T-Th/Jen Robertson M/Angela Ibrahim T-F/ Alicia	

	Amodeo W/Anis Mollayan / Beatriz Costas M-T+F/Katrina Montgomery W-F, Rachel West M-W + F
School Psychologist	Leith Potter
Admin Manager	Kylie Jones
Admin Officers	Judy Milosevic/Nichole Laborte / Natalie Coleiro / Kellie Milostic / Kate Klajic / Nikki Babela
School Learning Support Off	Debbie Byrne/Heather Hulewicz/Kristi Bonsall/Tamarah Bradley/Melissa Dabit / Jessie Jenkins
General Assistant	Glenn Boyce

SCHOOL LEADERS

Congratulations to **Joely Dingwall** and **Abinesh Janathanan** who were elected as our 2020 school captains. They will be supported by **Abigail Kim** and **Joshua Almanza** our vice captains, as well as the prefects **Zoe Chen, Twaha Noor, Areej Sabih, Tiffany Wu, Ajithesh Bhaskaran, Neil Ginni, Tapan Pandya and Ashish Ramanathan**. These exceptional, young individuals have been entrusted by the students and staff with the responsibility of representing the school and student body with great pride, enthusiasm and maturity. We know you'll be outstanding ambassadors, demonstrating our expectations and upholding the wonderful reputation that Quakers Hill Public School enjoys in the community.



SPORTS LEADERS

Congratulations to the following students who were elected as our House Leaders for 2020:

Babbilla

Captains: **Jasleen Kaur** and **Riley Milostic**

Vice Captains: **Amanya Valiveti** and **Aarav Thakker Kerribee**

Captains: **Claudia Fuimaono** and **Meta Tusini**

Vice Captains: **Khushi Rupakula** and **Kathir Chezhiyan Derriwong**

Captains: **Vera Ogienko** and **Neil D'Silva**

Vice Captains: **Izoduwa Itoya** and **Nikhil Taylor**
Warrimoo

Captains: **Rhianne Del Rosario** and **Riley Finch**

Vice Captains: **Hayzel Spinner** and **Niketh Sajith**



We will officially recognise our Library Monitors in the next school newsletter.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

As the impacts of Coronavirus (COVID-19) continue to evolve, the health and wellbeing of our staff, students and school community is of utmost importance. The Department of Education is working closely with NSW Health to ensure schools have access to the latest advice on how to keep whole school community safe. We are following their guidance and introducing proactive measures to limit the impact of COVID-19 in our schools

QHPS is taking the following steps:

- Cancelling all Semester 1 excursions
- Cancelling all whole school and stage assemblies
- Postponing the major fundraiser
- Temporarily ceasing all Special Religious Education classes
- Weekly PSSA competition is suspended until further notice, as well as all interschool sporting events
- Temporarily ceasing interschool debating competitions
- School banking temporarily ceased
- Promoting personal hygiene measures; hand washing, cough and sneeze etiquette, supervising hand sanitation, reinforcing hygiene rules e.g. to discourage touching face, introducing regular hand washing schedules throughout the school day

- Regularly checking/ensuring toilets and classrooms have adequate supplies of soap and hand sanitiser
- All classrooms and toilets are cleaned daily
- Informing staff and students who are unwell to stay home
- Contacting parents/carers of students who attend school and are unwell
- Ensuring students and staff who have returned to Australia from overseas self-isolate for 14 days before returning school

If your child is unwell, they MUST stay home. This is important for their health, as well as the health of their peers and teacher. We will continue to be proactive and responsive to advice from NSW Health and other government agencies and implement measures as necessary. As the situation evolves and advice changes, so too will our practices. We will continue to keep our parents/carers updated via social media and the School Stream app.

The best way to protect you and your family is the same as you would against the common cold.

- Wash your hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with soap and water
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow or a tissue
- Stay at home if you feel unwell
- Avoid close contact with anyone with flu-like symptoms

It may sound simple, but these are some of the best ways to limit the spread of disease. For more tips and information, visit NSW Health: <https://bit.ly/2TGtqqb>



NAPLAN

NAPLAN testing is not proceeding in 2020 to help principals, teachers and school staff focus on student learning during the outbreak of COVID-19.

The nation's education Ministers met on the 20 March 2020 deciding to cancel NAPLAN for 2020. The decision was made to provide teachers and principals as much time as possible to focus on the continuation of their students' education.

KINDERGARTEN 2021

If you have a sibling who will be commencing Kindergarten in 2021 (turning 5 before 31 July 2021), please start the enrolment process as soon as possible. Applications can be obtained either from the school office or from the school's website.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Thursday 13 February 2020, our swimming carnival was held at Stanhope Gardens Aquatic Centre. The carnival was a wonderful day for everyone involved including students, staff and the many parents who gave up their time to come along and support the event. WELL DONE to EVERY student who got in the pool for one or many events. Every time you did, you received a point for your house! The feedback we received from the school community was really positive in regards to the organisation, supervision and procedures. The first big sporting event of the year was a huge success!

Congratulations to all of the students who also represented QHPS at the Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival.



STUDENT USE OF DIGITAL DEVICES AND ONLINE SERVICES

From the start of Term 1 2020 primary schools will restrict the use of digital devices, including mobile phones during school hours. Primary-aged students will not be allowed to use digital technology during class time, recess and lunch unless for an educational purpose or where a student needs it for other reasons, such as an adjustment for disability. Quakers Hill Public School will be updating our implementation statement to reflect the new policy requirements.

As part of the school's Bring Your Own Device policy, mobile phones are not accepted as a form of device for use within the classroom. Should you wish to send your child to school with a mobile phone, it will need to be switched off as they enter the school gates and not used during school hours. Quakers Hill Public School takes no responsibility for lost, stolen or damaged phones.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

Quakers Hill Public School prides itself on being a school that demonstrates innovation, excellence and success; these are the foundations upon which our school is built. It is through our PBL welfare system and our school expectations of **Safe Responsible Proud Learners** that we nurture our students to achieve great success. It is imperative that all students know and understand our expectations. We continue to use our 'Steps' system to maintain our high expectations and also our Blue awards system to ensure positive behaviours are recognised and celebrated.

QUAKERS 45

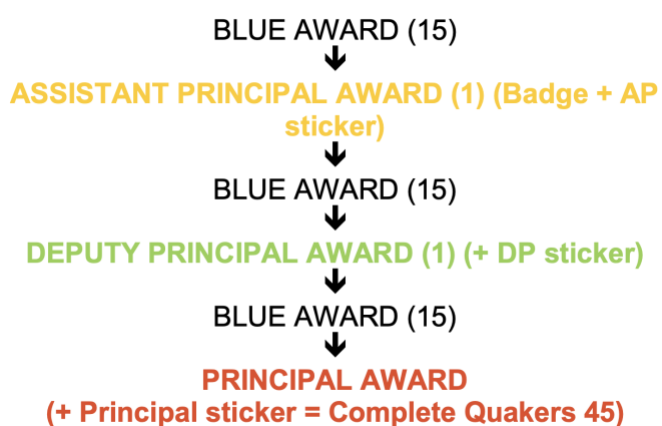
Students who display behaviour that exemplifies our school values will be recognised through a range of awards. A **Blue Award** is issued to students who follow the school expectations or display behaviour that embodies the school's values. These awards can be given in the classroom, playground, assembly, bus lines or wherever appropriate. Each child is issued an Award booklet on enrolment in our school to keep track of their awards.

An Assistant Principal Award is issued when a child has received 15 Blue Awards. The child places their 15 Blue Awards in their award booklet and submit to their class teacher who processes an Assistant Principal Award. Students receive an Assistant Principal certificate and their Quakers 45 badge with the Assistant Principal sticker presented by the Assistant Principal.

A Deputy Principal's Award is issued when a child has received a further 15 Blue Awards. The child places their 15 Blue Awards in their Award booklet and submits it to their class teacher who signs the front of the Blue Awards and processes a Deputy Principal Award. Students receive a Deputy Principal Certificate and an additional sticker on their Quakers 45 badge. This is presented by the Deputy Principal at the following Principal's Assembly.

A Principal's Award is issued when a child has received a further 15 Blue Awards. The child presents their completed Award booklet to the class teacher who processes a Principal's Award.

An invitation is sent home for the child's parents to attend our next Principals Assembly. Students receive a Principals Certificate and the final sticker to complete their Quakers 45 badge. This is presented by the Principal at the following Principal's Assembly.



VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION/BOOK PACK FEES

The provision of quality education relies, not only on the quality of the teaching staff, but also on the quality of the resources, which we use to educate our students. All voluntary contribution funds will go directly back into each child's education; ensuring they

are provided with the very best learning resources and opportunities. We strongly encourage all of our parents to support the school through the voluntary contribution. A huge thank you to all of the parents/carers who have paid their voluntary school contribution and book pack fees.

SOCIAL MEDIA

To join our growing social media family download the app at your relevant app store on your smartphone or device.

Website



Visit our website for information about the school <https://quakershill-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

Twitter



Follow us on twitter! Create a twitter account (<https://twitter.com/>) and then follow @QuakersHPS.

Instagram



Follow us on Instagram! Create an Instagram account and then follow **quakershill.school**.

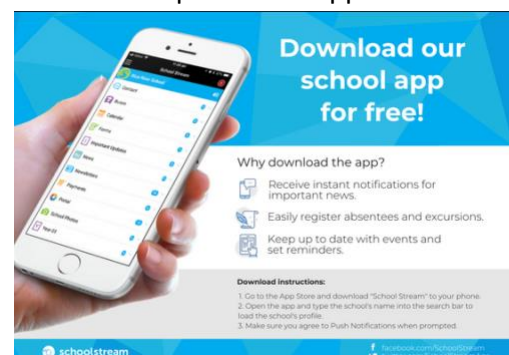
Facebook



Follow the Quakers Hill Public School Facebook page for the latest news and photos.

School Stream App

FREE SCHOOL STREAM app can be downloaded onto your mobile phone. This will enable our school to send out important notifications at a much faster rate, all at the convenience of your mobile device. School Stream is available via each platform's App Store.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Quakers Hill Public School is proud of its reputation in the community and our attractive uniform contributes to the school's identity and spirit. The school uniform promotes our school as a centre of excellence and creates a sense of belonging for students and a positive identity for the school community. School uniforms contribute to the personal safety of students by allowing easier recognition of students inside the school and in the community.

Students have two uniforms, an everyday and a sports uniform. Sports uniforms are worn on Thursdays K-2 and Fridays 3-6 for sport and on other occasions as designated by the school. The everyday uniform is worn at all other times unless advised by the school. Students are not to wear a combination of the everyday and sports uniform. In general the summer uniform is worn in Terms 1 and 4, while the winter uniform is worn in Terms 2 and 3. With variable weather patterns, however a phasing in period will occur where students can wear either the summer and winter uniform in the 3 weeks either side of the Term 1 and Term 3 school holidays. It is expected that the uniform be neat, clean, well-maintained and clearly labelled with the student's name. Lost items with names can be returned.

For more information about the QHPS uniform please see the [School Uniform Implementation Statement](#).



UNIFORM SHOP

Our uniform can be purchased from the P&C uniform shop located in school grounds, at the old hall. The uniform shop operates on Monday mornings from 8:45 am to 10 am and Thursday afternoons from 2:30

pm to 3:30 pm. Download and view [Quakers Hill Public School uniform price list](#).

ROAD SAFETY

Parking along Medlow Drive continues to be an issue, particularly in the afternoon. The congestion along Medlow Drive is a concern for our parents and residents. We ask our school community to be mindful of the parking situation and understanding of the rights of our residents. Simple precautions such as parking along Quakers Rd or at Quakers Court and walking a short distance to the school would go a long way to easing the congestion along Medlow Drive and ensuring the safety of our wonderful students.

SCHOOL ZONE OFFENCES
WHAT ARE YOU RISKING? *

FACT Children are small, harder to see, behave unpredictably and are extremely vulnerable. They need YOU to take extra care when driving and parking around school zones.	
NO PARKING No waiting. You have 2 minutes to drop-off or pick-up. You must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.	PEDESTRIAN CROSSING 1. In a queue of traffic, no part of your vehicle can stop on a pedestrian crossing. 2. Do not let your child in or out of a vehicle at a pedestrian crossing as this is a No Stopping zone.
 NO STOPPING You must not stop on a length of road with a no stopping sign. The first 10 metres from an intersection is a no stopping zone. Yellow kerb lines are also a No Stopping zone.	DRIVEWAYS & FOOTPATHS Do not park on or across a driveway or footpath.
 BUS ZONE Only a public bus can stop in a bus zone.	U TURNS U turns are illegal on or near a pedestrian crossing and across a double white line.
 MOBILE PHONES Extra fines apply for using a mobile phone in a school zone.	DOUBLE PARKING Double parking is illegal and is very dangerous in a school zone.
SPEEDING OFFENCES 40km/h is the limit. Children are vulnerable, so slow down in school zones.	

PENRITH CITY COUNCIL

Blacktown City Council

*Fines current as of 25 November 2019. Fines and demerit points are subject to change. For more information check out the NSW Centre for Road Safety website.

STAFF CAR PARK

A friendly reminder to parents/carers that the staff car park is not to be used to drop off or pick up children from school. Please utilise the pedestrian entry gates to access and depart the school each day and refrain from using the carpark gate as a short cut. This is in the interests of safety for all members of our community. Thank you for your cooperation!

BUILDING HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS WITH TEACHERS

Michael Grose, a former primary school teacher with 15 years experience and a parenting educator with 30 years experience, highlights healthy parent–teacher relationships as a significant factor in student success. These parent–teacher relationships require effort and energy from both parties. Below are his key strategies to help parents/carers build a healthy working relationship with teachers in the year ahead:

1. Get to know them

For your partnership to be meaningful and successful, you need to meet with your children’s teacher(s) with the goal of forming a respectful professional relationship. Be willing to share your aspirations for your child, be willing to build the teacher’s knowledge about your family and also gain an understanding of the teacher’s approach and what focus areas they have for their particular year group.

2. Trust their professionalism

Children need to know that their parents are fully behind what their teachers are trying to achieve if they are going to commit fully to learning. The best way to support your child’s teacher is to trust their knowledge, professionalism and experience. Avoid the temptation to question the expertise of teachers in front of students, particularly when the teachers use methods that you are unfamiliar with. Initiate conversations with teachers around methodology to give them the chance to explain the approach they are taking.

3. Go through the right channels

Despite the best teaching practices things do go wrong at school; children experience learning difficulties, peer conflict happens, children will come home with grievances and call on you for assistance. Resist the urge to react emotionally. If you need to contact teachers do so respectfully, calmly and through the correct channels. A measured response will generally achieve the best result for your child.

4. Utilise their resources

Teachers and schools often put a lot of work into sourcing and sharing credible resources that they think

will help parents. Take the time to read, utilise and enjoy the information provided to you. It’s intended to make your parenting journey easier, which will also benefit your child not just at school, but at home.

5. Build links to student learning

There’s a huge body of research that points to the correlation between parent engagement in student learning and their educational success. If you want your child to improve their learning, take an interest in what they are doing. Follow school and teacher guidelines about helping at home and attend as many meetings and events involving your child as possible. This strategy has a significant, long-term impact on your child’s attitude to learning.

6. Stay in touch

Life’s not always smooth sailing for kids of any age; family circumstances change, friends move away., illness happens, mental health challenges can hit anyone at any time and these changes affect learning. Make sure that you keep teachers up to date with significant changes or difficulties that your child or young person experiences so they can accommodate your child’s emotional and learning needs at school.

7. Be loyal

Show your loyalty to your child’s teachers by being an advocate. Talk positively about your child’s teacher and school, rather than being negative about them when speaking in the wider community. Teachers hold very public positions and generally work hard to build good reputations both within their school and their wider education community. Consider a teacher’s reputation among the community and also with children when you discuss educational matters with others.

8. Building healthy parent–teacher relationships doesn’t just happen

It takes goodwill from both sides, a commitment to setting aside the time necessary to support the home-based learning tasks that are expected, and a willingness to communicate both concerns and commendations through the correct channels.