The year in review
2014 was another busy but successful year at Toolooa SHS. Our students have accessed an enormous number of opportunities throughout the year; academic challenges, sporting options, curriculum excursions, service groups and so on. These help create the environment that our students enjoy at Toolooa High. Additionally, the results achieved by our students throughout the year have been impressive; 3% improvement in attendance, student improvement in year 7 and 9 literacy and numeracy is above the national improvement in all areas; strong senior outcomes with 98.4% of our students attaining a QCE. Our school has also received recognition for the outstanding work being achieved in Junior Secondary along with strong growth recognised through our Teaching and Learning Audit. The work of our team of staff, along with the partnerships with our parents and students, have enabled the ongoing improvement at Toolooa SHS and we thank them all for their commitment to our school and our students.

School Return for 2015
We wish our students, parents, staff and community a safe and relaxing holiday to end a very busy year. In 2015 we will again have a split start-up with years 7, 8 and 11 starting on Tuesday, January 26 and the whole school in attendance on Wednesday January 27.

Year 7 and 8 for 2015
What an impressive group of students! The opportunity for our year 7 and 8 students to experience a day at Toolooa SHS has been a tremendous success. Getting to know the layout of the school, who some of the teachers are, an understanding of how our days run, as well getting to sample the food from our fantastic tuckshop has been very valuable. Each year we lose an enormous amount of talent and tradition when our year 12’s transition into life after school and we rely on our incoming students to replenish the stocks. We are very excited about this group coming in. Our Junior Secondary Deputy Brian Townsend, along with our year 7 and 8 coordinators, Mr Andrew Shonhan and Mr Craig O’Connor have done a great job supporting this transition process at Toolooa High.

Reporting
Many of our report cards have already been sent out with the last couple of year levels being posted this week. We would encourage our parents to contact the school in the new year if these reports do not make it home.

Leaving staff
The quality of a school cannot exceed the quality of its teachers. This is a simple and obvious statement which has significant meaning at this time of the year. The student outcomes achieved at Toolooa SHS this year are reflective of the quality of our teachers, some of which are moving on. We would like to thank them for their dedication and commitment to improving the outcomes of students in their classes. Mr Andrew Shonhan, Mrs Lyn Paap, Miss Phoebe Huttunen, Mrs Nikki Carroll, Mrs Lyn Herbert, Mrs Laura Kistermaker, Miss Ali Denman-Mills and Miss Mindi Mewing have been important members of our staff and we wish them well for their next step in education.

We would also like to congratulate Justin Harrison on extending his role of Principal at Kin Kora SS through semester 1 2015, with Mr Mark Thomas stepping into the DP role at Toolooa for this period.

Uniform news
We have seen a number of orders for uniforms for 2015 submitted to the P&C so far. The intention is for the uniform shop to be open the week prior to school starting. Further information will be posted on our Facebook page when it becomes available.

Focus areas for 2015
To consolidate and continue the improvement at Toolooa SHS there will be a deliberate focus in the following areas in 2015:

- Junior Secondary
- Reading
- Writing
- Numeracy
- Attendance
- Continued development in teaching practice

In this Issue

Page 2 From the Deputy, Student Payment, & Blood Donations 2014
Page 3, 4 & 5 Blood Donations 2014 Cont.
Page 6 Good Guidance & QMEA Presentation
Page 7 Math News
Page 8 Student Executive Team 2015
Page 9 Senior Schooling
Page 10 Senior Schooling Cont., 2 Year 11 Students Holidays On Hold & Interact 2014
Page 11 GYM Bursary & Community Notices
Page 12 Dietician Visit
Page 13 Queensland Rail Notice
Page 14 Art News

For the Fridge

21/11/2014 Year 12’s Final Day
24/11/2014 Whole School Parade
27/11/2014 Year 9 & 10 Attendance Celebration
28/11/2014 Year 10 & 11 Final Day
29/11/14-4/12/14 Canberra Trip for Yr 9’s
4/12/2014 Transition Day Yr. 6-7 2015
5/12/2015 Transition Day Yrs. 7-8 2015
10/12/2014 P&C Meeting—6:30pm
12/12/2014 Last Day for Yrs. 7,8 & 9
27/1/2015 Yrs. 7,8, & 11 Resume School
28/1/2015 All year levels return to school

Term Attendance Level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>93.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>91.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>90.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>87.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>91.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 12</td>
<td>94.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wow, what a year. There have been so many highlights this year, from amazing results in academic competitions, to wins at sporting events and the production of the school musical. All of these opportunities have played a part in building and shaping the lives of the students at Toolooa.

Our year 12 students have finished their time at Toolooa and we look forward to hearing what path they take as they enter the next phase in their lives. Our year 10 and 11 students have already started their holidays and are possibly resting from such a busy year. Year 7, 8 and 9 students have almost finished their final assessment pieces and are preparing to participate in a variety of activities that are on offer from each faculty. The alternate timetable which commences on Thursday 4th of December provides students with the opportunity to engage in enrichment activities that have an emphasis on skills and exposes students to all areas of our broad curriculum.

There have been many opportunities for students to participate in real life experience throughout the year. Below is a list of a small number of the fabulous opportunities provided here at Toolooa. There have been snorkelling field trips, harbour tours, tours of Olsen’s Caves, University Tours, Day care Centre Visits, Art workshops and Chartered Accountant visits. Students have also been involved in a variety of QMEA events, represented the school and region in a variety of sports and participated in the production and performance of a school musical.

It is exhausting thinking about all of the fabulous opportunities that students have been involved in this year. As such, I think that it is really important to thank our fantastic teaching team and all the staff here at Toolooa who are regularly going above and beyond to ensure that these opportunities can occur.

**Congratulations to all the students who have worked towards achieving their goals this year.**

**Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday.**

**Enjoy the special time spent with family and friends.**

Cheers

Mrs Danielle Willard

---

**Student Payments**

As we come to the close of 2014, our administration staff are busy processing end of year student and financial transactions in readiness for our annual finance rollover.

Whilst this processing is underway, our office is unable to accept any payments after Tuesday Dec 9 and up to Thursday January 22, 2015. Payments made online by direct debit will not be processed until 2015 when receipts will be issued as per normal.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to phone our school Business Services Manager on 49714310.

---

**Red Cross Blood Donations 2014**

Toolooa you are lifesaving champions with a record **113 donations** (to November 30th) meaning that **339 lives** have been saved.

2015 saw a change in Red Cross policy meaning that students between the age of 16 and 18 could only donate once every 12 months. The challenge was to make sure that new students volunteered to donate to ensure that the lifesaving work of the Red Cross blood service could continue. The images in the following pages, show the number of new donors this year.

In addition to the wonderful students shown here, a number of staff have continued their regular 3 monthly blood donation or the more frequent plasma donations — special mention to Mr Hage, Miss Batey and Mick Read who informed me of their regular support.

Well done to all those involved and I look forward to supporting students in 2015 who wish to be involved.
RED CROSS BLOOD DONATIONS 2014
Seven Traits Of Mental Toughness

In different contexts, one character trait has emerged as a predictor for success. It isn’t social intelligence, good looks, IQ, or physical health. It is “grit,” which the dictionary defines as “mental toughness.” It could be defined as resilience or the ability to “bounce back” after setbacks.

Mental toughness is the “perseverance and passion to achieve long-term goals; having stamina; sticking with your future day in and day out and working hard to make that future a reality; a marathon not a sprint.”

Studies have shown that there is a correlation between mental toughness and self-control. It takes mental toughness and self-discipline to raise kids – they have constant needs. It is difficult to deal with tantrums/ ensure homework is done/ provide healthy food choices (when even you would prefer chocolate bar over an apple)/ monitor TV, computer time/ up and out in the morning (when you would prefer to be sleeping) …… and on it goes.

Seven traits of mentally tough people

1. Look for positives & learn from mistakes
2. Face fears
3. Non-judgmental
4. Celebrate successes of others
5. Realise that the only person they can control is themselves & do not blame others for their mistakes
6. Limit exposure to outside stimuli (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, Fast Food etc)
7. Accept and embrace change

Mentally tough people embrace change, but they understand that change must first happen in them before it happens through them. Mahatma Gandhi said it so well. “You must be the change you wish to see in the world.”

Happy Parenting!

Adapted from Generationnext.com.au

2015 QMEA Student Ambassadors Presentation

Queensland Minerals and Energy Academy (QMEA) is Australia’s largest and most successful industry/education schools partnership between the Queensland resources sector represented by the Queensland Resources Council and the Queensland Government. The partnership provides a range of opportunities for students, teachers, schools and industry partners within the resource sectors across both the professional and trade pathways. Toolooa has been a QMEA school for a number of years participating in events such as Career Café, It’s all about me and biodiversity days for students in grades 7 to 11.

Senior students have the opportunity to apply to be student ambassadors (up to 10 trade/vocational and 10 professional/university positions are available) with the goal of increasing their understanding of the resources sector. Students are required to complete a written application, attach supporting documentation and if shortlisted participate in an interview. As an ambassador they will be provided with unparalleled opportunities for networking with other students and industry representatives and develop leadership skills as well as being asked to participate in a number of QMEA activities, and where appropriate may be asked to promote the QMEA and the benefits of working in the resources sector to industry, students and the community.

On Tuesday 2nd December Kaitlyn Read was presented with her QMEA ambassador certificate for 2015 by Mr Michael Roche, Chief Executive, Queensland Resources Council and Chairman of the Queensland and Mineral and Energy Academy Board and Mr Robert Cavallucci MP, Assistant Minister for Multicultural Affairs and Member for Brisbane Central.

Congratulations Kaitlyn and all the best in 2015 as a QMEA ambassador.
Toolooa SHS Mathematics Students Excel

Year 9’s

During this term we have trialled an elective course that seven of our highest performing year 9 mathematics students chose to do in lieu of one of their elective subjects. The course was project based and focused on various mathematical aspects around a dam, its water storage and its ability to produce electricity. The students were exposed to some high level mathematics that is seen only in years 11 and 12 in only the high level maths subjects or in physics. Along with this the students learnt a lot about the ability to use spreadsheets as a means of doing large numbers of calculations in a quick, easy and concise manner.

A special, thanks must go to two local engineers, Malcolm Leinster who helped develop and deliver the course every lesson and Heather Richards who regularly gave up her time to come along and assist in the class.

I’m sure all seven students learnt a great deal from the subject and their success in it gives us the incentive to develop an elective maths/science elective subject that may be offered to year 9 students from 2016 onwards.

Year 11’s

Over the past two years 5 year 11 students (The “M” Team – Maths team) have been accelerated through Mathematics B. This means that they completed year 11 Maths B whilst in year 10 and have just completed their year 12 work whilst in year 11.

The “M” Team were identified back in year 9 as students who excelled in mathematics so they completed a year 10 mathematics bridging course in lieu of an elective subject whilst in year 9 and hence began their senior mathematics in 2013 a year ahead of the rest of their cohort.

All of the “M” Team took their studies very seriously and I am very pleased to say that all 5 have exited with VHA’s. A special congratulations goes to Kaitlyn Read who has exited as a VHA9, one rung from the highest possible ranking, and who has topped the “class” against older students both last year and this.

The “M” Team will now have one less subject to concentrate on in 2015 therefore allowing them to improve upon their results in those other subject areas.

Well done guys – it has been a pleasure having such wonderful students focus on achieving something special.

The “M” Team: Georgia Robertson, Matthew Furness, Brittany Macleod and Kaitlyn Read.
(Hayley Ward absent for photo)

Greg Hage
HOD Mathematics
It has been a busy term 4 with the student executive members being selected following a written application and interview with the principal. Mr Goltz was extremely impressed with the quality of applicants, their outstanding results in a range of areas, involvement in and passion for Toolooa.

The final year 12 parade of 2014 saw the captains, Brad Fuller and Jordanna Wale hand over their positions to the newly appointed school captains for 2015, Kaitlyn Read Georgia Roberston.

Nik Bennett and Emma Kyle (vice-captains 2014) introduced the 2015 vice-captains Sarah Lumsden and Georgia Muir at the same parade. Since then the student executive team has been finalised and congratulations going to – Megan Pascoe, Lauren Brennan, Jasmyn Dew, Rhiannon Seal, Laura McDonald, Janaya Ray, Mitchell Carter, Bradley Preston, Seth Underdown, Jasmine Elliott, Bradley Read, Nethmini Alahakoon, Micaela Moreland, Jessica Rose, Ally Ware, Emilie Vogler.

Early next year students will be presented with their badges at a full school parade with parents warmly invited to attend.
Career Opportunities

Here are some of the recent opportunities from our careers newsletter:

**Griffith University: Options Events**
Saturday 20th December, 10am - 2pm @ Gold Coast, G10 Lawn/Nathan, Arrival Plaza
After you get your year 12 results, attend an information session to chat to staff and students about pathways and options for your study.

Monday 22nd December, 9am - 5pm @ Gold Coast, G33 Building/Nathan, Arrival Plaza
Alternatively, visit the Future Students Centre and talk to study advisors about pathways and options to help you reach your study and career goals.
http://www.griffith.edu.au/future-students/know-your-options

**Southern Cross University: Information Days**
Thursday 11th December, 9am @ SCU Gold Coast Campus, Southern Cross Drive, Bilinga.
On-campus info days are an opportunity for prospective students and their families to check out the campus and facilities. There will be course information sessions and lecturers and students on hand to answer questions.

**Southern Cross University: Preparing For Success**
If you’re not able to meet the entry requirements for your preferred SCU Degree, or if you are returning to study after some time, consider Preparing for Success, a free and intensive 12 week program that will boost your confidence and equip you with study skills appropriate for university.

**University of Southern Queensland: Indigenous Higher Education Pathways Program**
If you do not have the right school qualifications or it has been some time since you studied, this program offers the opportunity to study at USQ. You will study 4 subjects to develop computing, writing, maths and general study skills.
After completing the IHEP program you can apply to study a USQ degree or a degree at another university.
Apply directly to USQ by Thursday 26th November.
http://www.usq.edu.au/degrees/indigenous-higher-education-pathways-program

**Education Queensland Scholarships and Grants**
There are a number of scholarships and grants available for aspiring teachers from Education Queensland.
Applications and nominations all close on Monday 8th December and forms can be downloaded from the websites:

- **Aspiring Teacher Grants:** Up to 25 grants of $1,500 are available for students commencing a teacher education program at a Queensland Higher Education Program.
  http://education.qld.gov.au/hr/recruitment/teaching/aspiring-teacher-grants.html

- **Pearl Duncan Teaching Scholarships:** There are up to 15 scholarships of up to $20,000 ($2,500 per semester) available for those who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders wishing to become teachers.
  http://education.qld.gov.au/hr/recruitment/teaching/indigenous/index.html

- **TJ Ryan Memorial Medal and Scholarships:** There are scholarships and awards for students who demonstrate outstanding leadership in their school and community, and academic excellence. All secondary QLD schools can nominate one high achieving year 12 student for the award.
  http://education.qld.gov.au/students/grants/scholarships/tjryan.html

**Anglo-American 2015 Apprenticeship Program (Middlemount)**
Opportunities for Mechanical and Electrical trade disciplines exist at the CapFox Operations for the 2015 Anglo American Apprenticeship Program, which focuses on developing your technical and leadership skills. Apprentices undertake structured training in working areas of the mine and rotation of duties to maximise their exposure to various facets of the operation, with time off for block release training in their chosen trade.
Applications close on Tuesday 9th December.

**Puma Energy Indigenous Cadetships**
In 2015 Puma Energy Australia will be commencing a 12 month fixed term limited tenure Indigenous Cadet Program for 2 driven and switched-on individuals having just completed their high schooling and wanting exposure to all facets of a global energy company.
Applications close Wednesday 10th December.
BMA Community Scholarship Program

The BMA Community Scholarship Program and BMA Indigenous Scholarship Program, provided by BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA), aim to encourage participation in tertiary education at CQUniversity Australia. While the key study areas for this scholarship include medical science and nursing, allied health, business and education, applications are encouraged from prospective students wishing to study in any area which is not mining or engineering related. Selection is not based on academic merit.

Applications opened 1 November and close 30 January 2015.


Tax File Number Applications

The Secondary Schools Tax File Number (TFN) Program will not continue beyond 31 December 2014. This means that School TFN forms will no longer be processed beyond this date. Students can now apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office.

Applying online is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a TFN. More information on applying online can be found at [ato.gov.au](http://ato.gov.au) by searching for 'QC27248'.

School Holidays On Hold For Two Year 11 Students

While other year 11 students begin their holidays following a busy end of term period with assessment, two students are attending UQ YSP following their successful selection in the prestigious academic program.

Arriving on Sunday 30th November Kaitlyn and Matt were whisked into university life settling into King's College before viewing a physics demonstration, Japanese sword show and keynote address by Triple P Parenting Professor Matthew Sanders.

Enjoy the experience Kaitlyn and Matt and we look forward to hearing about your experience early next year.

Interact 2014 - A Year In Review

The newly formed Interact club of Toolooa has had a very successful year. A small band of dedicated students took up the challenge of 'service before self' and participated in a range of activities both service and fundraising orientated.

Highlights of the year included assisting South Rotary at the seniors dinner, preparing a staff morning tea, challenging teachers to step out of their comfort zone, along with a money board and community raising activity at Bunnings. These activities culminated on Tuesday night 25th November with outgoing President, Katie Morgan and newly appointed President, Kaitlyn Read, attending the South Gladstone Rotary meeting and presenting the club with a $500 cheque to purchase their first Shelter box.

It is thanks to South Rotary matching $ for $ that in the short six months the club has been formed they can proudly say they have 'purchased' a shelter box for disaster relief. At the final Interact meeting of the year the new 2015 committee was announced (and will be formally introduced next year) - President: Kaitlyn Read, Vice President: Jasmyn Dew, Secretary: Sarah Lumsden, Treasurer: Bradley Read, Directors: Lauren Brennan, Melissa Ndabangeni.

Thanks must be given to the outgoing committee for such a wonderful year and with new membership on the rise 2015 is looking fantastic.
GYMC Bursary winner for 2014
Congratulations go to Kaitlyn Read who was awarded a 2014 GYMC (Gladstone Youth Music Council) bursary.

The GYMC is a volunteer group who work together to support instrumental music in the Gladstone region. The group comprising parents of instrumental music students, local instrumental music teachers and school staff are vital in providing a wide range of opportunities for local students through activities such as the music workshops.

A special thank you must be given to the GYMC for supporting our local students.
Megan Donates Her Time For Their Lifetime

Dietician, Megan Leane, has happily given her time to assist Toolooa State High School students better understand the nutritional needs of their bodies and for the Tuckshop to develop new healthy choice options for students.

School Based Youth Health Nurse, Lani Clements, coordinated the collaboration and was delighted that Megan provided her services ‘in kind’ as getting funding to cover consultation with a dietician can be difficult.

"While most of us have a general understanding of things such as the food pyramid, dieticians are specialist who can see things that we don’t necessarily see."

While Megan has been working with students directly in their home economics classes, she has also been working with the Tuckshop using the ‘traffic light’ guidelines to develop new menu items that fall into the ‘green’ category.

"As an Accredited Practising Dietician I have specialist integrated knowledge of nutrition, science and health. I can see where the issues lie and the importance of improving the situation."

"Across Australia we have an obesity epidemic, in Central QLD the incidence of obesity (not including overweight) is 39%, this is 11% higher than the national average. When we shift our attention to children, Central QLD is again higher than the national average with 27% of our children being obese,” Megan says.

During the planning phase with Sheryl Rowe, the former Tuckshop Managing Convenor, Megan was surprised to find that there was some feedback about the cost of ‘green’ items.

"It is very tricky to establish a balance between the guidelines, what kids will eat, what is possible to produce on site, and remaining profitable whilst keeping costs down to purchase. "

"It is a reality to expect the cost to increase slightly with any change to new foods, particularly foods which may have a greater number of fresh ingredients such as salads, verse mass produced frozen foods,” Megan said.

School Based Youth Health Nurse, Lani Clements has seen our community change over the past decade and says we need to act now if we really want to make a difference.

"Obesity might not sound like a big deal at the moment, but fast forward 30 years into your child’s life, we’re going to start seeing enormous costs related to chronic disease (high blood pressure, cholesterol, heart disease, diabetes), not to mention the lifetime of medication.

Some of the changes to date have been changing the 750 ml coffee milk as below with a staggering 16 teaspoons of sugar per drink to 500ml low fat milk. Only 6.5 teaspoons of sugar are found in the replacement milk. The World Health Organisation recommends only 6 teaspoons of sugar per day.

Salad wraps have also proven popular with the students with a competitive price of $5.00.

Thank you Megan for giving up your valuable time for Toolooa SHS.
Your safety

With the upcoming school holidays, Queensland Rail is urging families and students to be Railsmart by following these simple rules at level crossings and around rail property:

- Pay attention to signs and signals
- Never enter a level crossing if the red lights are flashing and pedestrian gates/boom gates are closed.
- Always look for the second train
- Keep yourself and your mates safe by not taking shortcuts and unnecessary risks around tracks
- Avoid the distractions of headphones and mobile phones

Trains can weigh upwards of 10,000 tonnes and take 2 kms to stop.

Disobeying level crossing signals or trespassing on railway property is not only dangerous, but illegal and could result in prosecution.

Queensland Rail is encouraging parents and schools to discuss this important safety information with their students and children, empowering them to be Railsmart.

Further information and activities for teachers and students can be found at queenslandrail.com.au/railsmart or beonthesafeside.com.au
Art News Term 4

Year 11 students are hard at work and play. Students have the opportunity for diverse practices in the realm of Visual art. Our great class of dedicated and committed students are enjoying the challenge of creating their own responses to their work.

They are working on the unit “Reaction to the Environment”

Year 12's Applying Finishing Touches To Artwork For The School