Welcome 2015 Senior School Leaders

At the recent Awards Night, the school leaders for 2015 were announced and were welcomed to their positions by the 2014 school leaders.

A rigorous process was undertaken to select these students which included a written application, speech, voting by students and teachers and finally an interview.

Congratulations to all of these students who have taken the challenge to make a difference.

School Captains: Bennett Hardwick and Angel Parsons
Vice Captains: Linley Creese and Darcie Cahill
Cultural Captains: Meghan Gibson, Tiarnee Douglas and Tristan Kane
Social Captain: Chloe Waldon
ORION House Captains: Serena Twoomey and Tyson Reed
TAURUS House Captains: Brock Haidle and Rebecca Grummit
PEGASUS House Captains: Flynn Holmes and Katie Doolan
AQUILA House Captains: Zoe Muscat and Mick Volmerhouse
Welcome 2015 Junior School Leaders

Junior School Captains

Phoebe Dalton and Rachel Silvestri

Junior Cultural Captains

Rylea Davis and Jemma Rethus

ORION House Captain

Felicity Beard

TAURUS House Captain

Indiana Zarb

PEGASUS House Captain

Miranda Creese

AQUILA House Captain

Kiara Davis
Recently at Awards Night, the 6 new scholarship winners were announced for 2015. Congratulations to all of these students and once again thank you to the P and C who financially support this activity.

Scholarships were offered in three categories for Year 7 and Year 8 - academic, sporting and cultural. Not only does the recipient of a scholarship have to excel in one of these three areas but must show they are co-operative, responsible and respectful at school and in the wider community.

**2015 Year 7 Scholarships**

![Zachary McGrath](image1.jpg)
Zachary McGrath  
Year 7  
Academic Scholarship Awardee.

![Ruby Holmes](image2.jpg)
Ruby Holmes  
Year 7  
Sporting Scholarship Awardee

![Janee Emms](image3.jpg)
Janee Emms  
Year 7  
Cultural Scholarship Awardee

**2015 Year 8 Scholarships**

![Pravagyan Bharadwaj](image4.jpg)
Pravagyan Bharadwaj  
Year 8  
Academic Scholarship Awardee

![Jessica Grech](image5.jpg)
Jessica Grech  
Year 8  
Sporting Scholarship Awardee

![Aimee Kersey](image6.jpg)
Aimee Kersey  
Year 8  
Cultural Scholarship Awardee

We congratulate these students on their achievements.
Our Year 12 students have graduated and a new adventure for which they are well prepared awaits them. We have recognised their many fine achievements, the learning they have acquired and the personal growth they have experienced over the last five years.

There are many thoughts going through our heads as we say goodbye. The most immediate has been our concern all year: that every student graduates with the best possible results and genuine pathways for next year. At the same time, we know that there will be reflections of the good times had at school and some thinking about what lies ahead. The junctures of life are key moments and a combination of reflection and planning is very important to us as humans.

We celebrate with pride the achievements of all our students in: cultural, sporting, citizenship and academic pursuits. It is the James and Thomas Wright, Dux and Dux Proximus awards that are hotly contested and hold a special place in our school. Congratulations to Courtney McPherson and Caitlyn Slater on this academic milestone in their academic career.

Mr Scott Cage
Principal
As the 2014 school year draws to a close it is timely to reflect on the efforts and achievements of our junior secondary students at Mirani SHS. The vast majority of students have excelled academically, culturally and in sport. The excellent attitude demonstrated in their approach to their work in all areas augers well for the future as they head off into Year 9 & 10. They are a wonderful group of young people and as parents you can be proud of them.

The students have benefited from the influence and guidance of dedicated teachers who go above and beyond at Mirani to ensure your child receives a great education. Our Year 8 Core teachers and Year 9 subject teachers provide the foundation for successful learning and work extremely hard every day in their classrooms. Additionally, our Year 8 Coordinator, Miss Mel Smith and our Year 9 Coordinator, Mr Brendan Jenkin do a fantastic job behind the scenes to ensure student wellbeing.

Recently we welcomed our future Year 7 and Year 8 students to Mirani SHS for their orientation days. Both days were a huge success due to the enthusiasm of both students and staff. A highlight of both days was the diligence and interest shown by the group of 2015 seniors who gave up their own time to come in and help settle the junior students into high school life. 2015 will be a history making year in secondary education in Queensland, and Mirani SHS is well prepared and ready to move into the new stage of junior secondary.

I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable break, and look forward to catching up in 2015.

Michael Post
HoD Junior Secondary School

Farewell from Acting Deputy

2014 has been a very exciting, challenging and industrious year for me at Mirani. I have met and worked with wonderful staff, students and parents. Coming from an Arts background I have identified some very gifted and talented people who I hope not to lose professional contact with as I am returning to my position as Arts and Languages Head of Department at North High. Mirani High is a lovely school and I will miss it. Thank you to everyone for your support and great work and wish you every success in 2015. Merry Xmas and Happy Holidays.

Regards

KERRY ANN SMITH
Acting Deputy Principal
Tristan Kane jets off to the National Summer Art Scholarship

With his work entitled *May the wind guide you*, Tristan has successfully been selected as one of only 16 students in Australia to attend the National Summer Art Scholarship. The scholarship program offers an opportunity to engage with the staff at the National Gallery of Australia, as well as other arts professionals, artists and students from around the nation. The scholarship includes flights, accommodation and workshops with artist’s.

Here is a quote from Tristan’s accompanying artist’s statement: ‘*May the wind guide you* is a deeply relevant and sobering work that speaks of the societal, political and geographical struggles of innocent bystanders caught up in civil war, relating the figures to the country of origin and as a result be labelled as a refugee… The strength of the bond of mother and child cannot be destroyed. Wind is a natural occurring force that propels and halts, aids and disables oneself: *May the Wind Guide You.*’

Congratulations Tristan!

Printbank Awards

Danelle’ Stiemmie *Turtle* and Lainey-Kay Black *Miguel* have been working hard to prepare works for the Printbank Awards being held at Artspace Mackay. They’ve produced collograph prints from hand constructed plates with a range of textures. Opening night is Friday 19th December at 6pm and the works will be on display until 8th of February.

Charlene Slack
Art Teacher
Students undertake work experience for a variety of reasons and outcomes - either compulsory in year 10, as part of a Certificate course they study at school, trialling for employment or voluntarily to sample a range of occupations to assist in subject selections and career pathways. I would like to thank all parents and guardians whose student has participated in work experience in 2014 for ensuring agreements are signed and returned and transporting your child to and from their work place. We appreciate the time, effort and costs involved in this process and sincerely hope that your student benefited from their experience.

To all employers who have hosted a Mirani High School student in work experience in 2014 – THANK YOU. You make this possible and once again, we understand the effort, time and cost you put into our students. I look forward to working with you again in 2015.

Year 10 compulsory work experience first block placement is scheduled 25/05/2015 – 29/05/2015. Initial paperwork will be issued to year 10’s within the first 2 weeks of school next year. Please ensure your student meets set timelines with paperwork returns.

I would like to wish students and their families a very Merry Christmas and a terrific, safe 2015 and look forward to working with you next year.

Cathryn Post
Senior Schooling Teacher Aide/Work Experience Coordinator
Natural Disaster Event

In the event of a natural disaster - Access to school closure information

1. **QSchools app**

   The QSchools app will provide up-to-date information about school closures, in the event of a natural disaster causing damage to the school or preventing access to the school.

   Visit the department’s apps page for more information and all the features: http://deta.qld.gov.au/about/app/

   The QSchools app is available for free download through iTunes, Google Play and the Window’s store.

2. **Websites**

   Up-to-date information about school closures can be accessed on the following websites.

   - School Closure Website: http://esc.eq.edu.au

Word from Chappie

The Year 12’s are gone; the Years 7’s are coming! High school is heading for another year’s end. Assignments, assessment, final projects and then the reports and the weather just keeps getting hotter! The varieties of things that happen this time of year are causing their share of upsets to students. Some are leaving, others not sure, moving house, going away for the holidays, etc. But through it all there are always some constants, those things that never change.

Advent is coming, Christmas is coming, and shopping for gifts is HERE! Formals, farewells & graduations, concerts, parties and Christmas Carols are all unfolding as they should. Enjoy the coming of summer, embrace the friendly ‘craziness’ of Christmas but be careful not to get too serious or let situations get explosive. Seek help when it’s needed rather than when it’s ‘too late’ and look after your mate. We want you back for 2015.

We’d also love to see you at the Combined Churches Christmas Carols in Mirani on Sunday 7th December. Come out for a 6pm supper before the 7pm Carols erupt at the Mirani Catholic Church grounds. There are Christmas trees to decorate, songs to sing, a play to watch and school choirs bringing fun Christmas cheer.

Don’t let the pressures steal your joy, strive to protect your health, choose to bounce back when things go wrong. Have compassion for those in ‘hard times’, consider a cause to be extra generous to this Christmas and above all LOVE those around you; your family, friends and this wonderful Pioneer Valley community.

Merry Christmas
Rex the Chappie
Platypus Lodge Restaurant, in the cool mountain tranquillity of Eungella National Park - Broken River section, where you can escape from the tropical heat and where you can see the platypus in the wild, offers The Ultimate Rain-forest Alfresco Dining Experience.

When I think about good food, it’s about quality and value. After working in some of Switzerland, Austria & Australia’s best food establishments, I am making sure high quality standards are applied to the preparation, cooking and presentation of our meals, which is the key to its success.

Although this kind of dining is unique in Australia, we offer a different experience at Eungella National Park - Broken River section. Not only can you see the platypus in the wild, walk on the new board walks, alfresco-dine in the cool fantastic rain-forest surroundings, the food and service stands out from the rest.

Lovers of good coffee and food love Platypus Lodge Restaurant, the place where you meet the platypus.

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**Parent/Guardian Information**

**Items handed in to the office:**

There are numerous items at the office which have been found during the year and have not been claimed. These items include watches; phones; wallets; jewellery; headphones; swimming goggles. If your student has lost any of these items, please come in to the office and see if any of these belong to them. We have put them in the student notices for many weeks, but there are still a lot to be claimed. The school office is open from 8.00am - 4.00pm until Friday 12th December.