Kilcoy State High School has always enjoyed collaborating with the local school community, and we are very proud of two students who recently completed a project that will greatly enhance the school experience for one of the children at Kilcoy State School.

Our Industrial Technology Department was approached to see if it was possible to construct a tray top accessory for Prep student Kiara Graham who has Cerebral Palsy and attends the Kilcoy State School. The addition of the tray top to Kiara’s standing frame would allow her to complete some work in the standing position allowing for greater inclusion with class activities and her peers.

This request presented a unique opportunity to promote disability awareness with students in the Year 11 and 12 Furnishings classes with Deece Knight and Casey Floss assigned the task of constructing the tray.

The boys completed the job with a high level of commitment and workmanship and were invited to meet Kiara and handover their work on Thursday. Kiara enjoyed meeting the boys and has begun using her frame in class.

This experience provided an authentic opportunity for students to put their skills to work as well as engaging in some deep, meaningful discussions and a greater understanding of the challenges those with disabilities face in their everyday life.
As part of Kilcoy State High Schools commitment to the professional development of our staff, 17 teaching staff members (50% of our teaching staff) attended the 2016 Hawker Brownlow Education Thinking and Learning Conference over the weekend of 14-16 May.

This highly regarded conference presented a series of sessions including professional learning strategies on how to develop a highly engaged classroom environment that supports students and maximises learning. Central to this year’s conference and relevant to our recent status of Independent Public School was the message that it is the affiliates of a school – the staff, students and parents – that make up a community.

We have a great school community at Kilcoy State High School and many of the sessions provided valuable tools to assist us in continuing and developing our unique strategic direction. The Heart of Education session was particularly relevant to what Kilcoy State High School is striving to achieve. Education is about people working and learning together. It is about building relationships with the students and adults in an effort to create a learning community. The way we interact with one another will set the tone for everything else we do in school. This presentation focussed on the importance of building trust in relationships and based on the premise that we make a difference in the lives of students by creating a positive school climate that is conducive to collaborative learning for all.

Other sessions included the importance of incorporating digital technologies into the classroom and of initiating cultural school change that can be embraced, sustained and celebrated, whilst providing students with viable further education or career opportunities.

Maker Movement
Of note was the session on Leading the Maker Movement. The maker movement in schools focuses on the natural learning curiosity of students where they tinker, invent, create and make to learn. ‘Makerspaces’ in schools tap into student passions and combine them with open source learning, contemporary design and powerful personal technology like 3D printers. Our own 3D printer has been popular with students and was on display at the Parent teacher interviews. It is currently working in our Resource Centre where it has produced a number of board game pieces for a student assignment and a mobile phone holder.

The resource centre is undergoing a redesign as our own maker space where students will be able to access the new technology and well as new board games and other interactive, hands on resources.

Chris Dench—Principal
From the Deputy Principals

QTAC offer changes
QTAC has announced changes to course offer dates for 2017 admission. The 2017 admissions period begins in August 2016 and Year 12 students may receive offers as early as 18 November 2016 depending on courses selected. Crucial dates for all major offer rounds will be made available in the QTAC Guide and online later in the year. For more information visit the QTAC website.

Uniform – maintaining HIGH expectations
With the cooler months approaching we ask that all families ensure their child owns a school jumper that fits. Parents are reminded that jumpers may be purchased through the uniform shop or alternatively you may purchase a plain black or maroon jumper. Long pants need to be slacks/trousers/microfibre tracksuit pants with a straight leg (no skinny leg pants). Students presenting in the wrong uniform will be issued a detention and required to borrow a school-owned uniform for the day. If you are experiencing any issues obtaining the correct uniform please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Huge Expo On Careers
On the weekend of the 16th and 17th of July the major Tertiary studies EXPO for the South East will be held at the RNA showgrounds in Brisbane. Go to the link below for details – a must for year 11 & 12 still not sure of their pathways. http://www.CareersEvent.com

Study and school work
With the prospect of half yearly exams coming up and the school year well under way, some students may feel the pressure of study and school work more intensely in Term Two. It is normal to feel some stress and pressure when it comes to study and school work, however it is important that students, teachers and parents know when stress becomes a threat to wellbeing and mental health.

It is important that students have support to help them manage their stress levels and study in an effective and productive way. Some students may also face extreme disappointment or feelings of hopelessness if they do not get the marks they were aiming for. It is therefore important that students learn to manage disappointment and not let test scores seriously impact their wellbeing and sense of self-worth.

This is also important to note it is illegal for school students to engage in paid employment during school hours. This practice not only leaves the student in a vulnerable position but the employer can find themselves in trouble legally. If you have any questions regarding managing work and school commitments please feel free to contact the office or our student support team.

Liz Bingham, Deputy Principal

Student Support

ReachOut.com fact sheets

http://au.reachout.com/Beating-exam-stress
http://au.reachout.com/How-to-Study
http://au.reachout.com/Burnout-or-chronic-stress
http://au.reachout.com/Failing-a-course-or-subject

ReachOut for Parents
https://parents.au.reachout.com/
Department News

Science

Congratulations to the prize winners for our term 1 science inquiry challenge. Over the course of the year different year levels (from 7-9) will be offered the challenge, so keep an eye out for that one.

Year 8 students are currently completing an earth and environmental science unit. They have been learning about the rock cycle, and will then be planning and conducting an experiment that investigates and compares different fertilisers. Radishes will be planted over in the agriculture department and various fertilisers applied, including our very own “worm juice” collected from our worm farms.

The UNSW ICAS science competition is being held this term, on the 31st May.

Art

Students are producing some excellent art work this year. The 7s are currently working on clay sculptures and have enjoyed getting their hands dirty.

We have been lucky enough to be invited to be a part of a project where students participate in creative workshops with Kontraband Studios, choosing a design created by students to paint on the power poles at the front of the school. We are looking forward to seeing the finished product.

Agriculture

Our two new additions have definitely been a big hit. Yin and Yang the mini goats have certainly made themselves at home, with students of all year levels keen for a cuddle. The goats were purchased as part of our “raising baby animals” unit for Year 9. We also have a clutch of silkie chicks for students to care for.

A cheese making workshop was held recently for senior agriculture students, where they made camembert. The end product will be entered into this year’s EKKA.

Year 11/12 classes have planted strawberries and they are doing well. We are all looking forward to the harvest!

Students will also be involved in the Woodford show, which is coming up this term, at the end of week 10.
Department News

**MATHS NEWS**

The Maths Team Tournament was held on Monday May 16 at Narangba Valley SHS. Two teams were sent, the first from Year 7/8 (Todd, Jonah, Mia, Blake and Libby), and the second from Year 9/10 (Ebony, Khi, Alec, Michael and August). They were up against about 1000 students from both private and public schools across our district. Thanks to Mrs McCloskey and Miss Messenger for volunteering to take the teams.

The UNSW Maths competition is quickly approaching. We have already sent away entries for those students who replied, but if any other students would like to have a go, get in touch with Mr Martin in C-Block Staffroom.

The first drafts of the new senior syllabuses were released recently. These will replace our current syllabuses in 2018 for the Year 11 students of that year (these are our current Year 9 students).

**HPE NEWS**

Our cross country athletes competed last Friday in the district trials, following the running of our recent school cross-country where once again Rafter house prevailed on the day. As an on-course official it was great to see the numbers of students getting stuck in and having a go. Congratulations to each of the winners on the day.

Our netball girls are getting ready to do battle in the early rounds of the Vicki Wilson Cup. This is a school-based netball competition that will see our girls take on other local schools for the right to progress to the next rounds. Good luck to the girls.

Miss Smith is chasing up teams for the newly created Somerset Regional Council sporting challenge. We will be taking on local high schools in a range of sports later this term. Teams are mixed, so there is a great opportunity for everyone to get involved. See Miss Smith for more details.

**Geography Field Trip**

The year eleven geography class were fortunate to go on an excursion and visit sections of the Stanley River catchment earlier in the term. The students were given the opportunity to bushwalk around numerous waterways of the catchment. Staff from the Stanley River Outdoor Educational Centre provided students with the skills and equipment to perform a range of water quality tests. Data from the aforementioned tests are currently being used to form their reports.
District Cross Country

24 students attended the District Cross Country trial at Strathpine on Friday 13 May. All runners completed the course and we congratulate Chaseley Cavanagh, Sophie Wolff and Blake Anderson for making it through to the Regional Cross Country Carnival. This will be held on Tuesday 31 May at Maroochydore.

Congratulations to Abby Tetzlaff who is our newest Fraser Sports Captain

Parent Reminders

Puzzles needed

Our Resource Centre is looking for any jigsaw puzzles that parents may have at home they no longer use to increase our stock of student resources.

Tuckshop

Our Tuckshop now has its own Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/kilcoyhightuckshop/

QParents

QParents is the easiest way to register your child’s absence.

Visit https://qparents.qld.edu.au with your unique invitation code (sent with the information pack last year) and identification ready.
New Technology

We are embracing the Maker technology with a soon to arrive Raspberry Pi 3 which is a tiny computer (about the size of a credit-card) popular with hobbyists who use it to create everything from Living Room PCs to Robotics Projects and a MaKey MaKey which is an invention kit that tricks your computer into thinking that almost anything is a keyboard. This allows you to hook up all kinds of fun things as an input. For example, play Mario with a Play-Doh keyboard, or piano with fruit! The resource centre is undergoing a redesign as our own maker space where students will be able to access the new technology and well as new board games and other interactive, hands on resources.

What's MaKey MaKey?

MaKey MaKey is an invention kit for the 21st century. Turn everyday objects into touchpads and combine them with the internet. It's a simple Invention Kit for Beginners and Experts doing art, engineering, and everything in between.

How Does it Work?

Alligator Clip two objects to the MaKey MaKey board. For example, you and a banana.

When you touch the banana, you make a connection, and MaKey MaKey sends the computer a keyboard message. The computer just thinks MaKey MaKey is a regular keyboard (or mouse).

Therefore it works with all programs and webpages, because all programs and webpages take keyboard and mouse input.

What can you make? That's up to you! Google for an online Pacman game and draw a joystick with a pencil: Then you can play Pacman by touching the drawing. The possibilities are endless!


Premiers Reading Challenge

The reading period for the 2016 Premier's Reading Challenge commences on Monday 16 May and closes Friday 26 August.

As well as being fun, the challenge aims to boost children’s literacy skills by encouraging students to read widely for pleasure and learning, to develop their imagination, and to cultivate a passion for literature. Students can register individually for this event. http://prc.median.com.au/