Dear Parents/Guardians

End of Term:
As the term ends, Year 12 students have been busy completing assessment prior to samples of student work being sent to a verification process which is coordinated by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority. This is a process to ensure compatibility and consistency of standards for Year 12 students across the state. You should be aware that Monday 17th October is a Student Free Day for Pittsworth SHS and for all schools across Queensland. Year 12 verification meetings occur on this day. Curriculum review panels will meet to moderate and verify the standard of work for all Year 12 students across the state. This process occurs each year in order to ensure that standards are being consistently maintained. Folios of student work are submitted for review across Queensland. Teachers have been working with students to prepare their folios of work for submission.

This is the final newsletter for the term and as such I would like to take the opportunity to wish all a safe and restful September break. School resumes for Term 4 on Tuesday 4th October.

QTAC:
Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applications are due by Friday 30th September. It is a requirement for any senior student who is interested or intending to study at any university, post school, to complete an application via QTAC. Applications can be submitted online.

Young Achievers:
Congratulations to Jemma Brown, Laura Cheetham, Kira Lambie, Kirsty Stocker and future Year 11 student, Alyanna Borres, who have each been awarded a Young Achiever Scholarship from the University of Queensland. This entails a guarantee of financial support throughout Year 11 and 12 along with a scholarship for tertiary studies at University of Queensland upon completion of Year 12.

We are proud to be able work in close partnership with the University of Queensland and equally proud of our students who have been awarded these prestigious scholarships.

Readers Cup:
Last Wednesday evening, Year 8 students Laynee Saal, Lani Collins and Alayna Bourke travelled to Brisbane, proudly representing our school and the Darling Downs region in the Queensland final for the Readers Cup. Each of our students studied five books, on which they were questioned by a panel of judges. While they did not win the final they did us proud and it was a great experience for the girls.

Well done to Jenny Sullivan on coaching and preparing the team.

cont'd page 2
Awards Night:
It is my pleasure to invite all to the Pittsworth State High School 50th Annual Awards Night, which includes supper afterwards. The ceremony is on Wednesday 2nd November at the Pittsworth Town Hall and commences at 7:00pm.
This is the single most important evening on our school calendar. We celebrate our highest achievers in the academic, cultural and sporting fields of endeavour. In addition we also introduce our Prefects for 2017 and announce our School Captains. Wednesday 16th November, the Year 12 Formal for Senior students is to be held at the Pittsworth Town Hall. Year 12 students will finish their schooling on Friday 18th November.

Arts Showcase:
Arts week activities commence second week of next term. This will culminate with an Arts Showcase evening on Thursday 13th October, from 5:00pm at the school. There will be a range of student performances and displays along with a variety of refreshments available.

Tony Kennedy
Principal

Farewell

Regretfully this will be the last newsletter that I will be contributing to as Principal of Pittsworth State High School. On Monday afternoon I was asked to take on the role of Principal at Toowoomba State High School and I accepted the position to take up duty in Toowoomba on 4th October.

I leave Pittsworth after being Principal for nine years and I have relished thoroughly every moment during those years. There have been some low points with our school community enduring more than its fair share of tragedy, but there have also been many high points of significant success and achievement. I have seen the school grow in population, in buildings and facilities. I have seen great progress in the capacity of our teachers and our students. I can say without question that Pittsworth is the best school I have worked at as Principal and Deputy Principal. This is due to the calibre of the people who work here, the unwavering support and openness from the Pittsworth community and the truly genuine nature of our students.

I have always felt welcome and part of this great community and that has enabled me to progress the educational agenda of Pittsworth. I leave with the satisfaction that I have made a positive contribution to the school and community. I also leave knowing that I have made many great friendships.

My decision to move on to Toowoomba State High School was not one that I made lightly, but in doing so I felt the time was right for me to take on a new challenge and the time is right for a new Principal to take the reins of the school.

At the commencement of Term 4, Mr John Lofthouse will take on the role of acting Principal. Mr Lofthouse brings with him a wealth of experience as an Administrator in Secondary Schools in rural settings. He has been Deputy Principal at Nanango State High School for 15 years and in the past 12 months has filled Principal roles at Warwick State High School and Murgon State High School. I am confident that John’s style of leadership will complement our school and encourage all to welcome Mr Lofthouse openly to the Pittsworth community. The process to appoint a permanent Principal will take place during Term 4. The P&C Association will be represented on the selection panel. I leave knowing the school is in good hands under the leadership of Mr Lofthouse and Deputy Principals, Mr Michel, Mrs Mahon and Mr McKenzie as well as our Heads of Departments. The school community should be confident in the stability of the leadership team.

There exists clear direction, unity and sound processes. The outstanding achievements of past graduating classes are testament to this. As I mentioned on several occasions, our school is and has consistently been one of the highest achieving schools in the region, and I am confident Pittsworth students will continue to be among the top graduates in the Darling Downs region.

The short notice of my departure is of some concern to me, however it is necessary due to the circumstances that Toowoomba State High School is presently facing. As people would be aware, the campuses of Toowoomba State High School are separating into two individual schools from 2017 and the transition to this is to be implemented during Term 4. The Mt Lofty campus will be Toowoomba State High School and the Wilsonton campus from 2017 will be known as Wilsonton State High School. As you can appreciate there is a significant volume of work to be done in managing such a change with staff, finances, IT networks, uniform and school identity to transition. From 2017 I will be at the Mt Lofty campus as Principal of Toowoomba State High School. A new Principal has also been appointed to Wilsonton State High School.

I leave with mixed emotion; the sadness of farewelling a place that has been very special to me and farewelling friends and workmates, but also with the excitement of the prospect of being a part of a unique opportunity in the establishment of two new schools. I am extremely proud to have been Principal at Pittsworth State High School for the past nine years and proud of the school and what has been achieved. Pittsworth will always be a special place for me.

I am looking forward to attending my final Awards Night and Year 12 Formal at Pittsworth as a guest of the school and the opportunity to say goodbye in person. I wish all in the school community every success and the very best in what I am confident will be a very bright future.

My sincere thanks for the past nine years and kindest regards.

Tony Kennedy

Deputy’s Desk

In this edition of High Notes I would like to provide a reminder of school policy regarding two matters that currently require greater attention from the student body.

Jewellery Issues
The school uniform policy, in particular the guidelines regarding jewellery and makeup. The Pittsworth SHS Uniform Policy, which can be found on the school website, clearly states:
“The only acceptable forms of jewellery to be worn with the uniform are wristwatches, a signet ring, a simple necklace of religious significance, plain sleeper earrings and studs in pierced ears.”

Also indicated in the same policy are the following key points:
• Facial piercings must be clear and non-visible.
• No other body piercings must be visible.
• All tattoos must be covered.
• No eye-make up or lipstick is to be worn at school.
• Nail varnish should be clear.
• Sunscreen and sun coloured foundation products can be used for skin protection.

I would ask that parents please remain vigilant in ensuring that students of Pittsworth SHS are always suitably presented in accordance with the school uniform policy.

Submission of Assessment
It is the aim of Pittsworth SHS to provide a fair and equitable process for the submission of assessment for all students. We have a policy for assessment outlining expectations around Time Management, Academic Ethics and, Assessment Submission Guidelines. Of particular note are the following:
• All coursework assessment must be submitted by the due date.
• Exams either during regular school classes or exam block must be attended.
• Extensions may be granted in special circumstances (eg. Bereavement, Compassionate or Exceptional Grounds) with prior notice. These circumstances should be accompanied by a medical certificate or other appropriate documentation.
• In all cases it is important that students, parents or caregivers contact the school prior to the due date to discuss any problems.
• Consequences for breaching academic ethics (plagiarism, cheating etc.) will be determined by the Head of Department in consultation with the relevant Deputy Principal.
Pittsworth State School P&C

**TRIVIA NIGHT**

**Friday 28th October**

6.30pm start

$200 per table (max 10 people)

**PITTSWORTH FUNCTION CENTRE, HUME STREET**

- Licenced bar
- Nibbles served throughout

Raising money for Air Conditioners in classrooms

- Multi Draw Raffles $100 Boards
- Lucky Door Prize Trivia Round Prizes
- Trivia Champion Prize

TEAM NOMINATIONS AND PAYMENT TO PSS OFFICE

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**Pittsworth State High School**

RU OK? Day on Wednesday, 14th September with a free sausage sizzle and other activities throughout the day. Students and staff were invited to wear yellow in an effort to raise awareness about the importance of asking that simple question - RU OK?

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**Deputy’s Desk**

**Failing Forward**

The end of any term proves perfect timing for students, parents and teachers to reflect on their efforts and set clear targets for the tasks ahead. Learners without such drive categorically flounder and consequently never reach their potential. History tells us that our highest achievers are those who’ve pushed comfort zones, quite possibly failed and taken the time to learn much in the process. Instilling this grit in our young people is possibly the most valuable tool we can impart. Parents and guardians are asked to reinforce such messages, particularly when discussing Term 3 reporting data which will be released early October.

**Bon voyage**

Congratulations is in order for two of our Year 7 students – Joel Keevers and Josh Cook – who are currently touring Japan as part of the Football Toowoomba 2016 Japan Tour. These boys have been billeted with local families and will no doubt enjoy this opportunity of a lifetime. We look forward to hearing about their adventures.

Have a fabulous break!

Lou Mahon
Deputy Principal, Dean of Junior Secondary

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**Find help**

The truth is, some conversations just become too big for friends. If you’re worried about someone and feel urgent professional support is needed, contact your local doctor or the agencies below. And if your need is life threatening, call 000 without delay.

Help in crisis:

- Lifeline – ph 131 114
- Kids Helpline – ph 1800 55 1800 or www.kidshelp.com.au
- Beyond Blue – ph 1300 22 4636  www.beyondblue.org.au
- Headspace – www.headspace.org.au
Philosopher Emmanuel Kant is quoted ‘He who is cruel to animals becomes hard also in his dealings with men. We can judge the heart of a man by his treatment of animals.’

This is also the motto that can be found on the website of the Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre at Murphy’s Creek. It was at this centre that a select group of students from the SEP went down to volunteer a days’ labour to assist with the upkeep of the centre.

There was very little time to settle in. As soon as the students arrived they were out in groups cleaning the turtle ponds, raking up the emu enclosure and planting trees that will help provide food for the free range wildlife. But it wasn’t all hard work, as after lunch the students got to go on a tour of the facility. They also helped feed the birds of prey as well as the adorable joeys.

The students received an onsite education about the animals, how they are rescued, and what goes into helping them recover as in most cases they are being released back into their natural environments. I am pleased to write that the students behaved extremely well, and worked very hard despite the heat and labour intensive activities.

We began the long trip back to Pittsworth - with of course a stop off at McDonalds, where Mr Van Wunnik bought all the students icecream as a reward for their hard work.

Sharn Treloar
7B History

Recent presentations by 7B History students sparked interest in a trip to China. Some great costuming, props and PowerPoint presentations were used in their pitch to encourage tourists to holiday in China.

To finish our study of China, students made fortune cookies placing their fortune note inside their hand made treat.

Home Ec happenings

Senior Home Economics students created cultural dishes of high quality in their recent exam. Early in Term 4 they will take an excursion to the Eat St markets in Brisbane to finalize their study of Cultural foods.

7D put in a wonderful effort with their recent Picnic themed cooking exam. Check out the delicious variety of Picnic foods prepared.

Training Opportunity

Kitchen Skills Training Program

The hospitality industry is on the move so now is the time to kick start your career! The two week Kitchen Skills Training Program is an opportunity to get job-ready practical skills to step into a worthwhile and sustainable future career in the hospitality industry.

The program involves one week of training and then one week of work placement in a potential host employers’ business. The work placement will be undertaken with a local employer who is seeking to employ an apprentice or trainee.

The program commences on Monday 26th September. Places are limited so if interested see Mrs Holmes in 4B as soon as possible.

Tuckshop Roster

OCTOBER

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(Mobile) Women’s Health Nurse
Kathryn Anning

Thursday 29 September 9:00am - 3:00pm

Will be at Allied Health Room
Beauaraba Living, Pittsworth Hospital

This is a FREE service
Bookings phone Beauaraba Living 4619 8422

Year 12 Graduation Fundraiser
Car Boot Sale

Saturday, 15 October
7am - 1pm

$10/Site

Contact Jaime 0437 210 572 to book a spot

To be held at PSHS on front oval of school (Toowoomba Rd)
BBQ & food stalls, Cold drinks for sale

BRING YOUR UNWANTED GOODS TO SELL!
Whatever fits in the car is worth selling!

There will be clothing, bric-a-brac, tools, books, craft for stamping, household items, linen, and much, much more

A Bargain Hunters Paradise
Early Childhood Studies

Teaching beyond the school grounds

Year 11 and 12 Early Childhood students have been going beyond the school grounds; every Thursday morning our enthusiastic students have been assisting at the C&K Kindergarten in Pittsworth. They have been helping in a variety of ways from taking small groups and teaching mathematic activities; putting up posters, preparing resources, cleaning, to help tie up those endless shoe laces. Being in the setting of an Early Childhood situation is the ultimate preparation for our students to operate as independent, reflective and self-directed learners.

As well as, developing professional interactions with Early Childhood Experts; observing children and reflecting on behaviour management strategies; our students are helping out in a valuable part of our Pittsworth community.

This year our students have completed four units of work: Nutritional Needs, where we discovered there is a large variation in the nutritional needs of a 6 month old to a 5 year old; Being Active, where we discovered how active play enhances children’s learning environments; Easy as 1, 2, 3…, where our students modelled activities engaging the Kindy students in numeracy skills through play-based learning; Mental health, where we realised the importance of understanding our personal rhythms and requirements.

This course has become very valuable in the vocational skills required by our students at Pittsworth High School. We now have a number of students who have completed this course currently engaged in University Studies; completing further Early Childhood Studies at TAFE; working as Nannies overseas; and currently employed in a variety of Early Childhood Settings.

Mrs Deborah Burton
Early Childhood Coordinator

Moore Trailers in Pittsworth are looking for two full time apprentice Boiler Makers. This would suit Year 12 students completing school at the end of this year. They are also seeking a School Based Apprentice, preferably a Year 10 student.

A position exists in the Pittsworth district for a Year 12 leaver who is interested in Agriculture.

Online applications are now open for Vanderfield positions. Two Diesel Mechanics positions are available. Both positions are for students who will be completing Year 12 this year.

There is also the possibility of a school based position becoming available, but this is not a definite!

Apply on the Vanderfield website or see Mrs Holmes in 4B.

Arts Excursion

On Friday 9th September, a group of 48 Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students accompanied by Mrs Williams, Mrs Rickard and Mrs Bates headed to both the Gallery of Modern Art and Queensland Art Gallery in Brisbane. Students enjoyed exploring both major art galleries, viewing work by famous artists and experiencing art in real life.

It was a great day and staff would like to thank the students for their excellent representation of Pittsworth State High out in the larger community.

DEFENCE FORCE INFORMATION EVENING

To learn more about the Australian Defence Force you are invited to attend the ADF Careers Information Session.

When: Tuesday 20th September, 6.00pm
Where: Defence Force Recruiting Centre - Milne Bay Training Depot, O’Quinn Street, Toowoomba

If interested see Mrs Holmes in 4B or email TWBCPT@dfr.com.au
Junior Vicki Wilson Cup

On Sunday 4th September, 16 of our junior students tackled the cold Toowoomba wind to compete in the Junior Vicki Wilson Cup. Our Division 1 team was coached by Brianna Stower; sharing her netballing knowhow with: Sara Bradshaw, Georgie Horsten, Sophie Webb, Alisha Lorenz, Chloe Leifels, Emily Hurford, Chloe Bradford and Teegan Kelly.

The Division 2 team was coached by Jordan Smith, this team went on to win two of their games, with the amazing team work of: Stephanie Quinn, Emma Jocumsen, Meg Fowler, Amy Sturgess, Madisyn Seage, Caitlyn Moore, Jade Fraser and Emily Markey.

A huge thank you to Rachel Sturgess who umpired an impressive 17 games of netball in a row!

Players’ Player and MVP will be awarded to each team on parade next term.

Mrs Deborah Burton
Year 7 Mathematics Teacher

Mathematics can be fun

Many studies have shown that simply playing board games in the classroom or on family game night helps brain development. Often we think of board games as relegated to the family’s dusty cupboard or the indoor recess backup plan on rainy days. However board games offer a variety of mind-enriching opportunities that could provide big benefits for our students via employing them as part of our teaching strategies.

This term these Year Seven students have been studying economy, budgeting alongside a numerous array of Mathematic concepts. Monopoly consolidates budgeting; the importance of an emergency fund and building a strong asset base.

Hopefully our students will take these valuable lessons board games can teach, into their holidays.

Pittsworth State High School

Arts Evening

Celebrate the Arts with us

Art Exhibition  Performances
Sausage Sizzle  Sweet Treats
Arts Activities  Xpresso Mobile Cafe

ARTS MARKET
LOCAL AUTHORS  -  POLISHED CRAFT
YONDALE DESIGNS  -  ARTISTS  -  USQ
LEXART STUDIO  -  MINERAL PHOTOS
MURRAYS ART & FRAMING
and much more!

Thursday, 13th October
5.00 - 7.00pm

Arts Evening

Report Cards for Term 3 will be emailed and posted during the first week of Term 4. Please ensure your contact details are up to date with the school office.
Thank You

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www.ashtonsbutchery.com.au

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Sat 8:30am to 12 noon

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Driving School

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Sat 8:30am to 12 noon

Step into your future career while you are still at school with a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship.

Phone today and speak to your area Training & Employment Coordinator, Amanda Ruhle about the more than 580 career opportunities available.

See more info on our website. www.goldenwest.org.au

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