How good is this:

**Toastmasters Graduation** - Congratulations to our Student Leaders 2016, the 15th group to go through under the wonderful tutelage of Compass Toastmasters. It is one thing to elect our student leaders but it behoves us to ensure they are supported in training and experiences to not only do their job to the best of their ability but also to support their learning as leaders. Each year this program with Compass Toastmasters is budgeted for and run over 7 Tuesdays evenings with the transformation of our young people to confidence personified the most amazing thing. Their speeches at Graduation were amazing and the experience for families, exceptionally rewarding.

**Basketball finals for the Term 1 Friday night series** - Sincere thanks to teachers Dave Natalier, Samantha Castelijn and Emma Usher for training our students and being there with them each week. Our Year 7/8 boys took out the title and our Open Girls, also winners. The overall experience is so very positive for our students.

**Eisteddfod** - Teacher, Janelle Duane, take a bow. Friday night saw a simply beautiful performance from our full choir - all 39 of them. Saturday night was the night for our Boys' Choir - deserving winners from a stellar field.

For your awareness:

- **Parent/Student/teacher afternoon/evening** – Wednesday 4 May from 3.20pm through to the night. The online booking system will go up this week. Please see our website. It will be our pleasure to meet with you. These interviews are conducted with your child present so please remember to bring your child with you to the interview - it always makes sense for the child to be involved in discussion about his/her learning.

- **Our School Musical ‘The Wiz’** – Matinee Thursday 19 May and night performances on the evenings of Thursday 19 May, Friday 20 May and Saturday 21 May - please see our website for further detail. Students and staff have been in focused rehearsals - it will be a great production.

- **You know we are a very multicultural school** - 43 nationalities and 60 spoken languages - we love it! We have been invited as a school and wider community to the Open Day of the Garden City Mosque and the 3rd Toowoomba International Food Festival - held at USQ Clive Berghofer Centre on Sunday 10 April from 11.00 am to 4.00 pm.

- **Bring Your Own Device [BYOD] program has really taken off**! 300 students have now on-boarded with their own device. If you are in doubt in terms of the device your child is recommended to purchase, please refer to the specifications which were part of the mail out at the end of Week 2 Term 1 or alternatively, see our website or contact our IT section at school. Students are required to load Office onto their machine from home - instructions are provided in writing to the student, once on-boarded, or again, on our website. Once Office is uploaded, your child will be able to connect with all programs in his/her classroom.

A great term to begin the year!

Very best wishes for the Easter holiday.

Maryanne Walsh, Principal
The morning of the 22nd of February 2016 marked the beginning of a fun, challenging and action-packed week. An array of 219 anxious and excited Year 7 CHSHS students waved goodbye to family members, prepared to miss a week of schooling while spending the next four days on the Gold Coast at the Runaway Bay Sports & Leadership Excellence Centre; along with 23 senior student leaders and 17 staff/teachers.

Over the course of the camp, students, senior leaders and teachers participated in a number of awesome activities such as sailing, stand-up paddle boarding, beach games, cycling, archery, theatre sports, Grit Olympics and team-building activities. The values of TRACKS – talk, respect, acceptance, co-operation, kindness and support – were the essence of all activities, while “stepping up” was strongly encouraged.

The fun didn’t stop there! Each night, after a full day of fun in the sun, students participated in entertaining night activities, including the O’Connell Games, a Disco, Atomic Egg and the Student Leaders’ Video Night. It is safe to say that everyone had a blast during the night-time activities and slept well.

By the end of the camp, friendships flourished amongst the cohort and leaders, and students learnt a lot about themselves and each other.

A special thanks also goes to the teachers and staff involved, as well as the senior student leaders, all of whom contributed to making 2016’s Year 7 camp an enjoyable, successful and memorable one. The camp was very much an effective and brilliant way to bring together the Year 7 cohort for an excellent year ahead.

Jasmine Herdman, Year 12 Student Leader

Introducing Internet Safe Families

INESS has been helping schools and teachers work with children to create safe and constructive environments online for 7 years.

As the online world continues to become a bigger part of our children’s lives, INESS have launched a new programme for parents to access the resources and skills needed to foster these environments at home.

Internet Safe Families publish regular articles with information on social networking websites and apps as well as providing training materials to help parents build an open and supportive environment for their children at home.

Direct link to the sign up page is: https://forms.sign-up.to/33939/1250
The International Student Program office has been as busy as ever with the start of 2016. Three new students joined the program at the beginning of the year with another student arriving in Week 4 of the term. We welcome Marie Rentsch (Year 10 Study Abroad Program for 1 term from Germany); Ayaka Ono (Year 10 Study Abroad Program for 1 year from Japan); Matz-Leon Plass (Year 10 Study Abroad Program for 1 semester from Germany) and Fiona Xu Jiawen (Year 10 High School Graduate Program from China).

We will farewell Marie at the end of the term and Margrete Sandnes at the end of the semester. Margrete (Margie) will have been with us for 12 months by the end of the semester. She is a Study Abroad student from Norway.

Congratulations to Yao Di (Year 12) for her successful attainment of one of the two positions available as Cross-Cultural Captain for 2016 and to Sei Jeong (Year 11) for her successful attainment of the International Ambassador role for Centenary Heights and her role as a Director in Interact.

A number of Study Tours will again call Centenary Heights home for a maximum of 2 weeks each, with students from Heibei ZhengDing (China) coming 18 – 29 July; students from Acosta FEV 6 (Japan) coming 28 July – 9 August and students from Kudan Senbatsu (Japan) coming 13 – 20 August. Another group visiting from China is yet to be finalised. We are required to find Homestay families for the students visiting with the Chinese Study Tours, so if you are able to help or are interested in knowing more, please see the advertisement in this newsletter.

Jeff Usher, ISP Coordinator

Even after acknowledging that this term is a short one it is amazing how quickly it has gone. Our Year 7 cohort have wasted no time venturing out around our school and getting involved in what we have to offer, even more quickly than last year. A number of our students are already into debating and sporting teams along with many musical and cultural endeavours including our upcoming school musical production.

We recently presented our Year 7 and 8 Class Captains with their badges, met to discuss their roles and have begun gathering ideas around what they can bring to our school. Along with the election of our Student Council Representatives Maria and Jonte Smith (Year 8), Elliott Pflaum and Ally Porter (Year 7) we have developed a really capable group of young leaders.

By the time you read this newsletter you would have likely read your Year 7 child’s first high school report card. It is always a real pleasure to read about how well they have settled into the high school routines and curriculum demands.

After an always enjoyable Easter break we will be ‘fired up’ and ready to go for Term 2.

Tim O’Connell, HOD Junior Secondary Schooling

Some school activities and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury. Parents are advised that the department does not have Student Accident Insurance cover for students.

If your child is injured at school as a result of an accident or incident, all costs associated with the injury, including medical costs, are the responsibility of the child, parent or caregiver.

Some incidental medical costs may be covered by Medicare. If parents have private health insurance, some costs may also be covered through the private health insurance. Any other costs would be borne by the parents.

Student Accident Insurance is an insurance policy that pays certain benefits in certain circumstances should your child have an accident.

It is a personal decision for parents as to the types and levels of private insurance they arrange to cover their child for any accidental injury that may occur.

Parents should contact their insurer or an approved Australian insurance broker for more information about student personal accident insurance cover for their child.

For more info visit: http://education.qld.gov.au/parents/school-life/health-wellbeing/accident-insurance-cover.html
The DDSW Regional Secondary Schools Music Camp was held on the 15th to 17th March 2016 at the Rangeville Community Church. Staff representatives from CHSHS included Jeffrey Poole and Naden Gray both conducting Stage Bands. Students received three days of ensemble instruction culminating in an entertaining concert of a very high standard. The music camp was a tremendous success with 228 students attending from 21 schools across the region and supported by 28 instrumental music teachers. One may feel very proud of our school’s contribution as 54 of our students participated.

To provide fulfilling and beneficial learning outcomes for students the following 11 ensembles were created: a String Orchestra, three Concert Bands, four Stage Bands, a Chamber Ensemble and two Wind ensembles.

Conductors ensured that students were musically challenged and engaged by providing repertoire covering many genres. The program included classical, contemporary pop, rock, swing, Latin, and avant-garde styles. Students remarked of their enjoyment in developing professional qualities whilst performing music that was fun to play.

Student behaviour at the camp was exemplary with students demonstrating courtesy, respect, camaraderie and joy in fulfilling their passion of making music.

Our instrumental students are now working towards their Fanfare and Eisteddfod performances.

Jeff Poole, Instrumental Music Teacher

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Are you planning an extended time away from school for your child (e.g. holiday; medical intervention etc.)? For any period of time over 10 consecutive days you are required to follow an official process.

Education Queensland has a policy - Exemptions from Compulsory Schooling and Compulsory Participation - which needs to be followed if your child/children will be absent from school for this period of time or longer.

Fact Sheets providing further details and Application Forms may be requested from the school office.
The students in S2S are powering into the term setting themselves up for a productive and exciting year. There are currently 23 students enrolled in Year 11 at the Centenary Heights SHS Campus and 9 in Year 12 with these Year 12 students continuing to work predominantly from TAFE South West Qld. It is great to see that many students are now committed to work placements or work experience across a wide range of industries. These work placements are at the heart of the S2S program as they assist students to gain full-time employment and most importantly work-based experience that will lead them to their next challenges at the conclusion of this program. We look forward to tracking their progress this year.

In addition, the students are completing competencies in Certificate I and II Sport and Recreation and Certificate II Information and Digital Technology and the Year 11 students are completing an additional qualification, Certificate II Business. Miss MacNelllie, Mr Orford and Mrs Hearnden are the teachers working with the students to achieve great outcomes in these certificates.

Mrs Sloss, Mrs Lodder, Mr Tracey and Mrs Morris are busy working with students and setting high standards to assist them to achieve success in English Communication and Prevocational Mathematics. All of these subjects are essential to assisting each student achieve a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) at the end of Year 12. It is crucial for all students to be present every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday (Year 11 only) to ensure they do not miss out on valuable learning towards high achievements in these subjects. A reminder that if a student is not attending classes or work, then parents/carers are required to inform the school or the employer in the morning, of the absence.

I would like to offer my thanks to the teachers, parents and the students for ensuring that S2S is held up as the valuable option for our students’ futures. We are already witnesses to great change and exciting opportunity for our young adults.

Sandra Hearnden, HOD Senior Schooling

**SCHOOL 2 SKILLS 2016**

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**2016 ANZAC DAY**

In previous years, our school has helped cater the breakfast at the RSL, corner Herries and Ruthven Streets, which follows the Dawn Service held at the Mothers’ Memorial. I need just a few helpers from about 4.30 am to cook the barbecues and then more helpers to help serve from about 5.30. It is possible to attend the Dawn Service and then move quickly to the RSL to help serve. If you haven’t been to a Dawn Service, I would strongly recommend the experience.

Parents/Carers and students are invited to volunteer. For more information, please contact Tim Ryan at the school on 46 367 521.

**YEAR 7 GEOGRAPHY & SCIENCE EXCURSION**

In Week 6 of this term our intrepid Year 7 students went out on an excursion to the Toowoomba area waterways. Their mission was to test water quality in these catchments, monitor the availability and significance of good quality fresh water, discuss indigenous use of, and practices, regarding water systems and to use binoculars and charts to identify local bird species and the interaction of animals in the local area.

The students were very well behaved and we consistently received praise from Amaroo Environmental Education Centre (who ran the program) on how delightful our students were. Our students also took a great deal from the day that they will now be able to apply in their current Geography and Science units.

Alex van Dorsselaer, Social Science Head of Department

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SPORT Report

TSSS Swimming

What a wonderful display of team spirit from the students who attended the TSSS Swimming Carnival. 38 students attended this event this year, some of whom swam up to 10 events. CHSHS had a swimmer in every race of the day bar one. Due to this exceptional commitment, CHSHS ended the day winning the following:

- 14 years boys champions
- 15 years boys champions
- Overall Girls School Runner Up
- Overall Boys School Champions

These results are the best that CHSHS has had in years and was a result of some very strong swimmers swimming well, along with other swimmers getting in there and having a go for their school and adding many, many participation points. This was a thoroughly enjoyable day and many thanks to Mrs Irene Wilson and Year 12 graduate from 2015 Molly Cooper for their assistance on the day.

Athletics

Last week Brielle Erbacher attended the National Athletics Championships in Perth. Brielle was selected in the Qld Team to compete in the Steeple Chase event and the 1500m at the end of 2015. Brielle ran her steeple chase last Wednesday night and came 4th. This is 4th in Australia - a massive feat. Brielle also improved her run by 16 seconds. Brielle’s 1500m heats on Saturday was another success with a 4 second improvement, again, she made the final for this event. Whilst no placing resulted, Brielle has been a great ambassador for hard work and commitment to sport. Congratulations Brielle.

Darling Downs Sport

Last weekend Ethan Robertson and Connor Doherty participated in the State Softball Championships at Redlands. The boys played a great carnival and their DD team ended the championships in a very successful 3rd position. Also, one of our 2015 Year 12 students, Aaron Robertson, umpired extremely well at this event and is quickly climbing the ranks of softball umpiring; already going for his Level 4 at such a young age. Congratulations to these young gentlemen.

Tuesday March 15 saw the last Darling Downs Cluster trials for Term 1. We have had a lot of representative sport occurring this term and it is pleasing that so many of our students have represented CHSHS well and had success in their sporting ventures. Further sporting events will be published in the usual way via Student Notices and on the calendar on the website. Please see Mrs Bartlett if you ever have any questions.

Chris Bartlett, Sports Co-ordinator