



### A RACE FOR THE RECORD

A glorious May day provided perfect conditions and Kearneys Spring the perfect backdrop for Harristown High's 2012 Interhouse Cross Country destined to be a year of records. The venue selected for this is where the Darling Downs Cross Country is conducted. Hawks, 308 of them, battled in each age division, not just for first place but for a record first place. Victorious were Danielle Bigby and Chris Tate 13 years and under; Caitlyn Stocker and Jayden

Formosa, 14 years and under; Mikaela Polzin and Aaron Weiden, 15 years and under; Grace McCosker and Jack Gill, 19 years and under. Balkuin dominated, taking out first place. Meanwhile 437 students earned house points in the Fun Run, competing on the beautiful Harristown oval green. Dherwain House won the afternoon with 973 laps. This was no surprise as three of their students obtained the record for most laps: Adam Schmidt, Kurtis Wolff and Daniel Young. Congratulations to the green and gold!



### OLYMPIC EFFORT IN RELAY

Harristown Hawks made a colourful statement this year at the Relay for Life, dressed in all manner of costumes related to the Olympic Theme.

Pictured here are Maddison Griinke-Visser and friends and their representation of the Olympic Rings.

### HAWKS' HEALTHY HABITS

Groups of Year 12 Health students found a unique and meaningful way to share their recent learning. Students conducted interactive seminars to promote the habits of healthy eating and regular physical activity to members of the public. The seminars focussed on obesity and the impact on individuals, families and the broader community, the demonstration of useful exercises and the preparation of healthy snacks. A 21 Day Challenge was posed, encouraging audience members to implement seminar ideas into their own lives. Created display stands provided participants with information about gyms and exercise classes available in the Toowoomba Area as well as



information about nutrition, food samples and recipe cards. Students were pleased with the community participation and described the activity as, 'a challenging but engaging form of assessment!'



# HARRISTOWN STATE HIGH

## Hawk Talk

IN THIS ISSUE: Realise your Potential | A Worldly Challenge | Everyone, Everywhere, Landcare Middle School Connections | Budding Scientist | Where in the World Year 7 A Race for the Record | Olympic effort in Relay | Hawks Healthy Habits



### HAWK PRIDE Participation Relationships Integrity Diligence Enthusiasm

*"There is no passion to be found playing small - in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living." Nelson Mandela.*

### REALISE YOUR POTENTIAL

by Lauren Prior, School Captain

Passion holds the potential for ordinary people to achieve great things, highlighting the significance of pursuing it. That's why at Harristown State High School, we strive to be the school of unrelenting passion, and consequently, exceptional growth. We encourage our students to dream big, explore possibilities and to strive towards personal achievement. Our school provides opportunity; the

opportunity for students to pursue their individual passions, or, in some cases, to discover their passions. Discover the arts, chase sporting dreams, shine academically, connect with the world, experience the real world, engineer a future and build influential networks of support. Harristown, the Home of the Hawks, paralleling Nelson Mandela's words, allows our students to soar.

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR OPEN AFTERNOON - All year levels welcome**

**Tuesday 14th August, 3.30pm**

- meet the Principal, Mr Green and teachers
- tour the school and receive enrolment information



341-367 South St., Toowoomba Q. 4350  
Ph.: (07) 4636 8700 Fax.: (07) 4636 8777  
hshhawkstalk@eq.edu.au CRICOS:00608A

June, 2012





## A WORLDLY CHALLENGE

An experience of a lifetime was had by eight Harristown High seniors over an eighteen month period as they participated, as volunteers, in a World Challenge Program involving a month-long South African expedition to Namibia and Botswana. The entire trip was student-led, from planning the itinerary, arranging activities to booking accommodation. Miss Angela Dwan and Mr Alex Tucker's role focussed on providing support and ensuring safety. Initially students were acclimatised to the culture in Botswana before engaging in two treks to several villages, viewing ancient rock paintings, playing soccer with local children, learning hunter gatherer skills and relaxing in hand made huts of mud and cow faeces. Students spent a week in a school creating a mural, painting school facilities and



constructing soccer nets and three volleyball courts, all from proceeds raised through a Harristown High Free Dress Day a world away in Toowoomba. A trip to Africa wouldn't have been complete without a three day safari, viewing rhinos, giraffes, zebras, lions, warthogs and springboks in their natural environment. Students shopped at markets, sandboarded down dunes and ate local cuisine such as ostrich and springbok. 'An experience of a lifetime', say students, whose positive attitude was infectious. Another opportunity for students to explore and discover their passions.

## EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE, LANDCARE

Construction students develop skills through real life experiences assisting the local community while gaining credit toward their Certificate I in Construction. The group travelled to the Merryfields Environmental Park and Education Centre at Withcott to install an entrance arbour in the Living Landscape. Funding was secured by the Lockyer Valley Landcare Group to establish the Education Centre, which aims to support schools to implement the National Curriculum related to the studies of the environment. Harristown vocational students prepared and levelled the site, mixed the concrete and secured the arbour in place. Students agreed that the whole experience provided them with a 'high level of satisfaction to use their skills to contribute to such a worthwhile project. It was great to witness the completion of our building work as we visited the site frequently.'



**WANTED! EMPLOYERS FOR STUDENT STRUCTURED WORK PLACEMENT**  
 Do you know someone who would provide one week structured workplace learning for students completing their Construction Certificates?  
 Please contact David Jones (Head of Department Industrial Skills) if you could help find unpaid work placement for these students. Ph.: (07) 4636 8700



## MIDDLE SCHOOL CONNECTIONS

Members of our cluster school family visited Harristown State High School to taste a little of what high school has to offer. School Captains and Principal, Mr Green, welcomed Year 5 students to tour the school and see classrooms in action, under the guidance of Year 9 Ambassadors and Year 12 Silver Leaders. Workshops, laboratories, dance studios, theatres, sporting fields and gyms were in full throttle for their welcome guests. A performance of our state award winning 2011 Rock Eisteddfod, based on a dreamy Christmas theme, was part of the afternoon smorgasbord. Bubbling over with enthusiasm, one student from Glenvale commented, 'I can't wait to be at high school. My sister goes here and I really want to do all the sports', while another from Darling Heights said, 'I really want to do music and make things.' A great first taste of what Harristown has to offer.



## WHERE IN THE WORLD YEAR 7

Primary schools nominated several Year 7s to participate in a program designed to extend students' knowledge of technology, specifically using satellites to locate latitudes and longitudes to within a few metres. Using hand held devices and computers, students uploaded and downloaded information to satellites high above Earth to get a fix on their location within the boundaries of Harristown High and in relation to the city of Toowoomba. This curriculum is usually explored by our senior students studying Geography, Information Technology, Science and Mathematics. Mr Prior, Head of Department (Enterprise and Hospitality) led this activity with Year 7 students who rated the experience as 'cool, interesting and great fun'.

## BUDDING SCIENTIST



Selina Ward was one of only seventeen students from Southern Queensland to be selected for USQ's Primary Industry Centre for Science Education Program (PICSE). The program aims to encourage students to study Science at tertiary level, particularly Science related to primary industries.

**BUDDING AUTHORS** - Thanks to Caitlyn Patterson, Marisa Barton, Steph Wise and Maggie Lorentzen who assisted with articles this month.

