

# BUSY SCHOOLS NEWS

## Term 3, Week 7

Friday 27 August 2021

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What a week this has been!!! Students are working hard on assessment in all classes. It is fantastic to see the change in the way students are dealing with assessment since the beginning of their time at BUSY Schools. Please remind these amazing students that they MUST attend exams as they cannot just resit an exam without a legitimate cause.

Next Friday is a Pupil Free Day for school days. FSK will continue to run as it is not run by the school. The bus run will be amended for this day to cater for FSK students who need it only.

Naomi Vucas  
PRINCIPAL

### Teacher Communication

Teachers often communicate with students and parents via email. If the school does not have your email, please supply it to Clare ([clare.cropper@busyschools.com.au](mailto:clare.cropper@busyschools.com.au)). We also ask that parents/carers reinforce with students the importance of them checking emails regularly to ensure they are not missing information, particularly if they are away.

### Leaving School Early

If you are needing your student to leave school for any reason, please call the office or come in to organize having them signed out with Clare. Students are beginning to treat school attendance as optional and are often interrupting Clare to ask for her to call home because they want to go home. She will not be calling parents to go home throughout the day unless there is clearly a need – illness or obvious heightened anxiety. Every day in class counts, and one lesson missed is 50% of teaching and learning missed, which makes assessment even more challenging. The afternoon session can be used for catching up on school assessment or asking for support if that is needed. Otherwise, it is activity time.

### Year 11 Assessment

In week 7 and 8, the Year 11 students will be sitting Essential English examinations over 2 sessions. Parents are to inform the school on the morning of the examination if students can't come due to unforeseen circumstances. If students miss school on assessment days without good reason (usually to be supported by a medical certificate), the student will receive a Not Rated (NR) result for the whole Unit. Find below the schedule for the examinations over the next 2 weeks.

#### Monday/ Tuesday groups: 1A, 2A, 3A

Exam 2 Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> August 2021 (Week 8)

#### Wednesday/Friday groups: 1B, 2B, 3B

Exam 2 Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 (Week 8)

In Week Ten, students who have completed Unit One will not be required to attend their BUSY Schools base days. With so many late enrolments, this time will be used to catch up all students on Unit One

## Year 12 Assessment

Year 12 students are working on assessment in all subjects at the moment. Attendance is very important so that students can access support and feedback whilst completing these tasks.

Please encourage your young person to work hard in class and attend every day.

## NDIS Information Evening

Representatives from Mission Australia and BUSY Ability visited the school on Wednesday afternoon to provide information about what NDIS is all about and how people can access this service. Thank you to those who attended after a very long day. I hope you all got something out of it. If anyone would like more information, we are happy to link you with BUSY Ability to get more information.



## Behaviour

### *Mobile Phone Rules*

A significant number of students have been found to be sneakily using phones under desks, in bags, behind laptop screens and travelling to and from bathrooms and drink breaks. We now have a new process. All students must put phones in the lock box or hand them to Clare, Marney or Naomi voluntarily. If a student says that they do not have a phone, we verify with parents and/or bag search. If there is a phone, we will keep it in the office for the day. Parents/carers will be notified to collect the phone at a time that suits them.

This may seem strict and unnecessary, but the mobile phones are becoming a major distraction to the students, and in some cases a trigger for heightened states of anxiety. Since the tightening of the rules around phone usages students leave the room less and get more done in class.

If you need to contact your student urgently, you can call 4058 4792, and if they need you, they are welcome to see Clare or myself and we can assist.

## *Employment Pathways*

Congratulations to the following young adults who are working at least one day a week in a school-based apprenticeship:

We wish them luck in their employment journey and look forward to seeing how they develop in their pathways.



**Braiden D** – Carpentry

**Brock I** – Cabinetmaking

**Tyla S** – Tiling

**Meaghan P** – Hair dressing

**Meisha S** – Graphic Design

**Hayden C** – Carpentry

**Codie Q** – Community Pharmacy

**Ethan K** – Tiling

**Kais S** – Diesel mechanic

**Lachlan K** – Refrigeration

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### *Ergon Energy Visits*

Excellent opportunity for students who are either interested in Trades/ Apprenticeships or Engineering positions with ERGON ENERGY in the future. Let Amba know if you would like to attend.

### *Hutchinson Builders Construction Site Visits*

Anyone interested please let Amba know.

### *Call Out for 2 Female Students*

UNIQ YOU facilitate personalised, informative and safe 30-minute video calls between female students in high school and their educators, with strong, positive female role models working in industries under-represented by women.

A variety of leading companies across 10 x STEM and VET industries have been quick to show their support, including but not limited to Shell, Urban Utilities, Tesserent, Oz Minerals, Skedulo and Origin. Their commitment is to work with UNIQ YOU to provide 12 months of direct access to over 100 impressive and diverse female professionals and leaders.

Let Amba know if any of you are interested in participating

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### *Donations Wanted*

We are looking to build a collection of interview and work appropriate clothing for the students to borrow to assist with their interview, work experience or first week on the job. If you have any men's or women's clothing available for donation such as work pants, shorts, hi vis shirts, boots, office jackets, blouses, skirt or pants that would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you all for the donations that we have currently received from our fantastic school community!

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## *BBQ Get Together*

In Week 9 instead of our usual breakfast for the students we would like to extend an invitation to the students and their family to come and join us for a BBQ.

### Monday/ Tuesday groups: 1A, 2A, 3A

Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021 - 2.00pm – 3.00pm

### Wednesday/Friday groups: 1B, 2B, 3B

Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021 – 2.00pm – 3.00pm

Please RSVP to Clare for catering purposes by Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.



## Staff Contacts

The current contacts for staff are below.

Naomi Vucas (Principal)	naomi.vucas@busyschools.com.au	0417 174 558
Chipo Gweshe (Head of Curriculum – Assessment Requests)	chipo.gweshe@busyschools.com.au	0409 413 898
Amba Tipton (Employment Pathways Officer)	amba.tipton@busyschools.com.au	0456 627 481
Marney Fichera (Youth Worker/Morning Phone calls)	marney.fichera@busyschools.com.au	0419 747 212
Clare Cropper (Administration Officer/Morning Phone Calls)	clare.cropper@busyschools.com.au	0419 717 805
Toni Bowley (Learning Support Teacher)	toni.bowley@busyschools.com.au	0428 162 052
Ben O'Connor (Yr 12 SCS/English Teacher)	ben.O'Connor@busyschools.com.au	0473 639 626
Faith Sayer (Yr 12 SCS/Maths Teacher)	faith.sayer@busyschools.com.au	0460 436 349
Madelein Breedt (Yr 11 Maths Teacher)	madelein.breedt@busyschools.com.au	0473 658 758
Stephanie Mullins (Yr 11 English Teacher)	stephanie.mullins@busyschools.com.au	0473 739 523
Cor Bezuidenhout (Yr 11 SCS Teacher)	cor.bezuidenhout@busyschools.com.au	0473 630 828

To keep up to date with everything happening at the BUSY Schools Cairns Campus follow us @BUSYSchoolsCairns on Instagram and Facebook.



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## Feedback Process

At BUSY Schools we want everyone to have a voice! We want to hear any compliments and/or concerns. The best way for feedback to be effective it to pass it through the most relevant channels. If you have anything you need to express, you could:

- Approach the relevant people directly and have a respectful conversation to resolve the incident.
- Approach Naomi to discuss the issue, and/or
- Report the feedback on the BUSY Schools Website: <https://www.busyschools.qld.edu.au/busy-schools-feedback/>