Queanbeyan Schools’ Choral Concert
On Wednesday evening, 28 May, schools from the Queanbeyan District gathered together at Llewellyn Hall for the annual Choral Concert.

Ten students from each of our Senior and Intermediate Choirs opened the program, singing the National Anthem with selected students from other schools. Our Senior Choir then performed Non Nobis Domine, which featured Maia Gavel, Emily Hazilias and Amy McAllister singing the solo section. The Senior Choir also sang Down By The Riverside. They will be singing both of these items in the upcoming Goulburn Eisteddfod.

Later in the program our Intermediate Choir sweetly sang Somewhere Over The Rainbow, featuring Alana Barraclough, Tara Barraclough, Abigail Barrett, Paige Boutzos, Charlotte Einhaus-Brown, Mackenzie Goiser and Caitlyn Maniti. This was followed by From Today, which showcased the choir's dynamic range. At the end of the concert, all choirs who had performed joined together to sing Seize the Day from the musical, Newsies and Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious from Mary Poppins.

The evening was a great success, with parents, teachers and principals from our choir community and other schools, congratulating our students and Mrs Sawyer on their fine performances. Although Mrs Hamnett was not with us, we thank her for her hard work in helping to prepare us for the event. Thanks also to the staff who helped to supervise the daytime rehearsal and/or the evening performance and the office staff who worked tirelessly to process payments and prepare medical forms for the day. Congratulations to all involved!

Library – National Simultaneous Story Time
A kind message from the authors!

School Term 2 Dates for your Diary
Mon 2 June P&C 6:30pm
Tues 3 June Mabo Day (Native Title)
Wed 4 June PSSA Soccer Gala Day at Goulburn - boys and girls teams
Thurs 5 June World Environment Day
Tues 10 June Sullivan Shield
Wed 11 June James Hird Cup - boys
Thurs 12 June Goulburn Eisteddfod for Junior, Intermediate and Senior Choirs
Fri 13 June National Buddy Day

World Environment Day
Be a buddy on ‘Thrash the Trash Thursday’ - pack a Splash Friendly lunch.

Pack a SPLASH friendly lunch today!

Do you have:
- A sandwich in greaseproof paper?
- Drink in a reusable metal bottle?
- Fresh fruit and vegetables in a tupperware container?
- Snacks in unbleached paper bags or wrapping?
- Reusable cutlery?

This Thursday classes will eat lunch with their buddy class. Students will compare their Splash Friendly lunches and learn some helpful tips from each other.

Year 4 students are leading the way with their commitment to improving the school environment. Students in 4B created posters to promote the campaign, and students in 4R continue to sustain the Splash Patrol action.

This week we will also collect old mobile phones in a MobileMuster for World Environment Day. Send in your old phone to be recycled. There is a collection box in the school Office.
Reconciliation Week
Let’s Walk the Talk

On Monday 26 May, the school community came together for an Assembly to mark National Sorry Day and the start of Reconciliation Week. Mrs Hawes and student leaders – captains, prefects and year 6 Aboriginal Students, led the Assembly.

Abbey, from the Ngunnawal people, gave the Welcome to Country: ‘My people have been meeting on the land around Queanbeyan for thousands of years. My ancestors hosted many important ceremonies on these lands, rich with wisdom and knowledge. We welcome you to the 2014 Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week assembly on our lands where the bogong moth travels through the valleys, rivers and mountains that surround us.’

Alex, school captain, explained: ‘National Reconciliation Week is about respectful relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians. The week is celebrated from 27 May until 3 June each year because these two dates are important anniversaries. May 27, 1967 is the date of the referendum that gave recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to be included in the census and June 3, 1992 is the date the high Court delivered the Mabo decision, which paved the way for land rights known as native title.’

Mrs Sharp, Miss Raymond, Ms Whitehead and Mrs Watt lit the candles to mark the apology to the stolen generations. Dustin, school prefect, described the importance of this ceremony through these words: ‘Lighting candles brings light to our hopes for reconciliation. It is a request for healing and peace. It is a traditional way of showing we care and it helps us reflect on our own thoughts on reconciliation.’

Alex, school captain, talked about the many levels of Reconciliation: ‘Reconciliation is the process of learning to understand a conflict from all sides and trying to find a resolution that values the differences. Reconciliation can take place at various levels of society – at personal, family, community, national and world levels. It is important to be happy with who you are, to value yourself so you can genuinely value others, to treat neighbours and school friends the way you would like to be treated, to heal the wounds of the past and enable all people to enjoy their rights, accept their responsibilities and have the opportunity to achieve their full potential, and to live in peace with one another while respecting differences.’
Nabila, school prefect, outlined this model for reconciliation:

- Faith: Believe world peace is possible.
- Learning: Understand the issues.
- Action: Act on what you learn.
- Respect: Respect all people.
- Empathy: Appreciate the feelings of others.
- Synergy: Discover new and better solutions.

Mrs Hawes explained: ‘Narragunnawali is a word from the language of the Ngunnawal people. It means peace, alive, wellbeing and coming together. Reconciliation Week is about bringing people together and celebrating our diversity as a school.’

Year 6 Aboriginal students read out the names of every Aboriginal student and staff member and invited them to the stage. Abby, a prefect, reminded us that great achievements take courage and persistence. She asked everyone to join a conversation about the value of recognition and to consider how past conversations can be turned into actions to make things happen.

Issy, school prefect explained that reconciliation is an ongoing process that leads to increased respect, reduced prejudice and strengthened relationships between the wider Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The assembly concluded with Rory, school prefect, offering an Acknowledgment of Country: ‘At Queanbeyan Public School, we, the students, staff and community, acknowledge the Ngunnawal Nation as the traditional custodians of this land. We also pay respect to Elders past and present. We extend our respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people present here today. We look forward to a future of mutual respect, harmony and reconciliation – Narragunnawali.’

Students and teachers from our school participated in the community Reconciliation Walk across the Queanbeyan Bridge. All students, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, walked together representing the school and carrying the Reconciliation Banner. ‘Building bridges, walking across bridges, building deeper understanding, building positive and strong relationships’.
Celebrate with our QPS 150 year merchandise!

Coffee Mug $10
Pen $6
Key Ring $10
Platypus $15
T-shirts (as per photo) $30

(T-shirts may be viewed at the Front Office. The order for the shirts is due by the 20th June – so get in quick!)

Order Form:

Name: ______________________________ Contact details: ____________________________

(Please indicate number)

☐ Coffee mug ☐ Pen ☐ Key Ring ☐ Platypus

☐ T-shirt

TOTAL: $__________

If ordering a t-shirt – circle the size required.

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Payment must be made with order.

I wish to pay by ☐ Cash ☐ Cheque ☐ Credit Card

Credit Card Authorisation

Please Charge $ ________________ (total amount)

Card Number: ________________ (Complete all 16 digits)

Expiry Date: __/__ Card Holders Name: ______________________________

Card Holders Signature: ______________________________

Alternatively, a Credit card authorisation can be given by telephone to the Front Office on 6297 2144