



TAREE HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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SPIRIT DAY IS COMING



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PRINCIPALS REPORT

I am sorry that I am not around to share this newsletter with you, but by the time this goes to print I will be in another part of the world. Allison Alliston will be relieving as Principal for the last few weeks of term and will do a wonderful job. Paul Ivers will be doing Allison's job and Chris Gray Paul's. It will be nice to be able to go away and leave the place in such capable hands. Although it will also be sad to miss such important events as NAIDOC Week and Spirit Day.

One hour at Taree High School

One Wednesday Period 2, I took the luxury of a walk around the whole school to visit classrooms and talk to students, look at their work and generally get a feel for what was going on.

A good place to start is always the library. It was full: teachers guiding students through research tasks, seniors voluntarily engaging in private study or queuing quietly to gain some expert careers advice, teachers' aides working through intensive numeracy programs, and not a spare computer in sight.

Then I was off through the science labs to see students engaged in expertly prepared practical lessons or keeping up with well crafted lessons prepared and delivered on the interactive whiteboards.

Down in the music rooms a delicate piano melody was filling the air only to be punctuated by a driving bass beat then a two part vocal harmony. Students and staff were working together to learn and create music of all genres.

Back through the art rooms, students were expressing their individualism with a wide range of developing skills and a never ending variety of media.

Up in the Geography and History rooms, a couple of classes were working happily through some texts and some teachers delivered content.

Staff in their staff room were working hard on student reports endeavouring to provide the best quality feedback to students and parents.

Over in the gym, kids of all shapes and sizes were cooperating in a variety of well thought out games that seemed to cater for all abilities.

Along the corridors of 'B' block, the smell of fresh cooked 'somethings' filled the air. Watching the waistline, I show restraint and don't call in.

Nearby some students were talking in a foreign language.

Only a few more steps later and it was obvious our locally developed literacy program is in full swing.

I was only half way round the school and grinning

from ear to ear. A sharp left took me up through the workshops the welcomes offered so freely in some other parts of the school are ignored as students are 'way too busy' to talk to visitors.

Across the playground I entered the majestic 'A' block, home to the fundamentals, Maths and English. The Mathematicians had students humming along using all sorts of innovative methods.

Students were part of lessons as they explored methods to solving problems using laptops and interactive whiteboards. Teachers' aides were supporting those struggling to keep up.

Up the stairs and Year 9 were busy improving their literacy and creative skills with every conceivable type of resource known to high schools. Over two hundred laptops were engaging students in learning through the wireless connection. Lessons were being pitched at all levels at all times providing challenges to the individual or the small groups working on them.

Considering all this as being too good to be true, I made a beeline for the only student to be seen out of class for the whole period and demanded to know why he was out of class. He quickly explained he was doing a catch up task to complete his assessment schedule.

Oh well!!

Teaching and learning is not what it was it's better.

Arrivederci



Mr Peter Bird

Dates to Remember

22/6/10	P & C Meeting
22/6/10	Regional Boys Hockey Final
23/6/10	Senior School Social at PCYC 6.30 pm - 10.00 pm
25/6/10	Regional Girls Tennis Year 12 Business Excursion
28,29,30/6/10	CHS Girls Touch Football
28/6/10—1/7/10	Year 7 Camp NAIDOC Day
1/7/10	Presentation Assemblies
2/7/10	Year 7-10 Reports issued SPIRIT DAY
20/7/10	School Resumes Term 3

DEPUTY'S REPORT

Many students these days have part time jobs. The benefits of this are many, including financial independence, developing work skills and good work habits such as punctuality and reliability, and direct experiences of what particular types of jobs involve. Employment times and hours will vary from week to week and it is essential that students plan their time effectively to accommodate the demands of both school and work.

There are aspects of part time work that will have major impacts on a student's ability to perform satisfactorily at school. Working in excess of 10-12 hours a week seriously restricts a student's ability to complete assessment work and study as well as allowing necessary leisure time.

Furthermore, work can be very tiring and makes effective study quite difficult. Common sense and life balance must prevail. Teenage years are important in forming habits for a healthy, happy and prosperous life and one aspect of a student's life at this age should not be allowed to adversely affect other important areas.

From time to time particularly at this time of the year there are regular and essential information evenings that provide information to students and parents that allows them to make informed decisions about subject selections for their School Certificate or HSC.

I am aware that some employers put pressure on students to work more than what maintains a healthy life balance. Often they claim that shifts cannot be changed without adequate notice. If a student finds any employer is preventing them from participating in these or any other mandatory activities please let the school know. We are more than happy to discuss the issue with the employer on your behalf.

Often the question is asked of students which is more important, your education or your part time job? It should be answered with a view to the future, your health and personal aspirations.



Mr Mark Thomson

DEPUTY'S REPORT

It is hard to believe that we are halfway through the year....Year 12 are preparing for their final term and we are in a frenetic planning phase for 2011. Year 10 are about to start their decision making process for Year 11 study with an Information evening on Wednesday 23 June at 6.30 pm in the Hall for students and parents. Here they will hear of the many pathways available to them for their senior years whether charting a course for university or further study; taking on Career Link which incorporates work, TAFE and school: a Vocational Education Pathway or any combination of the above. So many decisions to make, but a very exciting challenge for students. We pride ourselves at Taree High for exploring broader opportunities for our students, to give them the best possible educational outcomes as they leave school and venture into their futures.

The last week of term will mark NAIDOC Week in the school with many activities, including short film screenings, Indigenous games at lunchtimes, artworks, music and local people telling their stories in the library and Koori Resource Room. The theme of the Week in 2010 is Unsung Heroes. We end the term with SPIRIT Day on Friday the 2 July. The SRC are working tirelessly to make it as big a success as in 2009. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to showcase their talents and show school spirit at the same time.

Semester Reports will be distributed on Friday 2 July at the conclusion of Spirit Day. If parents wish for their student report to be posted home, a stamped, addressed A4 envelope should be provided to A17 prior to the end of term.

At the July P&C Meeting I will be presenting a Cyber Bullying presentation for parents in conjunction with the local Police Liaison Officer. All parents are welcome to come along and explore strategies to keep your child safe when using the internet, chat rooms and other social networking sites. The meeting is on Tuesday 27 July at 5 pm in the library. This will be followed up through similar workshops in Year Meetings with students.

I take the opportunity to wish all students and parents, a safe and happy semester break. School resumes for teachers on Monday 19 July and for all students on Tuesday 20 July.



Ms Allison Aliston

DEPUTY'S REPORT

I think I went to school in the wrong period! I am heavily involved in the planning and development of teaching for the 21st Century student and I must say I am jealous. Year 9 students are walking around with great looking laptops and classrooms are full of interactive learning. Staff are booking students into lessons conducted by experts across the state, or in more cases across the world, via video conference. Senior students have been getting 'tips' from leaders in their chosen subjects to gain any edge that may help them in their understanding and studies.

What is exciting, yet at the same time scary, is that often times the learning is becoming a two way process. Whilst the content of the courses can still be mastered by our staff, the mode of delivery is becoming more collegiate and flexible with our students taking a greater role in learning. It is fantastic to see how problem solving capabilities are being addressed constantly by both our staff and students. The software that has been made to students on the laptops and within the school has enabled some fantastic ideas and presentation of learning by students. I encourage you to ask students what is happening in their classes and how they are using the new software.

In a further promotion of student access to learning Mr Proctor is using the 'THS Moodle' site, developed by our computer 'guru' Mrs. Westley, to incorporate all courses run at Taree high School. This will enable students access to course work at home or where the internet is available. Senior students will have ready access to course notes and for revision of their work. School work available 24/7? Maybe I did study in the right century!



Mr Paul Ivers

Captains' Report

We've been very busy over the past month, in preparation for not one, but two events.

Firstly we've continued working towards Spirit Day. The SRC has begun trialling the activities in sport time, to ensure everything will work to plan. The first activity we tried was "Pass Miss Piggy", and the game worked nicely.

We've also been hard at work, trawling Taree for potential sponsors to help cover our costs involved in running the day. If you know any businesses that would be willing, let us know!

Secondly, Taree High decided it was time to revive the Senior Social. We have been working hard to get it up and running. For those who are too young to remember, the senior social is a social for Years 11 and 12 students from all the local high schools. Chatham, Wingham, Great Lakes, MVAC, Taree Christian College and St Clare's are all attending. The social is being held at Taree PCYC on Wednesday 23 June. The theme is "If I could be anything..." which allows those who are going to have a lot of fun. Some of our favourites are, 'I'd be James Dean', 'I'd be a can-can dancer', 'I'd be a Roman God', and 'I'd be a pillow'. The tickets are \$10 from A1 window.

Finally, due to Mr Ryan's retirement, Mrs Fatherley will be Relieving HT English for Semester 2. As of this date, Ms Walker will be SRC Coordinator for the duration of this time. Ms Burton will step into Ms Walker's role of Assistant SRC Coordinator. We'd like to thank Mrs Fatherley for her hard work, kindness, and leadership, not only with this term of the SRC but for the past however many years she has been coordinating.

On behalf of the SRC, good luck to the three of you in your new roles.



Bill Pitt



Caitlin Rosser

School Captains

To Parents

The Absentee Booklet is used when your child has been absent from school, if your child is late, to give your child permission to leave school, other than the normal time, or to get a pass for lunch.

These booklets may be picked up from A15 if you do not already have one.

Secretary's Report

The SRC has been busy recently with Spirit Day just around the corner! We have set the date for the last day of school this term, 2 July, and anticipate that this will be the best event yet.

The SRC has been approaching local businesses to ask for sponsorship to help support us in funding the event and supplying the materials needed. We are now at the stage where the final details of each of the

activities is being finalised. The activities that will run on the day are Dodge ball, Trivia, Pass Miss piggy (wet balloon game), an obstacle course, Charades and Sing star.

On Spirit Day, we will have an hour long lunch and music will be played in the quad. Also, Year 12 will be running a BBQ and lolly stand, so bring some money to help support them. The day will conclude with the houses coming together to chant their war cries and the captains' announcement of the winning house for the Spirit Cup.

At the moment we have based our organisation on the idea that it will be a sunny day so we hope that it won't rain on the day! However we will hopefully organise a "rainy day plan" to prepare us for the situation if it occurs. But either way, we hope that it's going to be an enjoyable day for all students and staff.

As well as running Spirit Day, we hope to have "Spirit Week" in the final week of this term. This will hopefully involve music and drama performances and sporting competitions during lunch times between houses.

Other than Spirit Day, the environment committee of the SRC has also been working hard recently to start up a new recycling system in the school. Soon, we hope to have a noticeboard, recycling and "cash for cans" bins around the school and an organic waste bin that will allow us to make compost for the gardens. The committee has been working closely with Mrs Burton and soon hope to open it up to involve other students once this new system is up and running.

So enjoy the rest of Term Two and mark Spirit Day on your calendars! It's going to be a wonderful event!



James Kennedy

Year 12 Report

Year 12, "Soup?"

13 years (or more, for some) has come down to this. We have about 60 days of school left, and less than four months until the HSC exams. That includes the Trial Exam period. So ahhhh... it might be time to push into 7th gear and hit the studying really hard. Help your teachers rip through the course, so you can have plenty of time for revision next term.

If you find the pressure is slightly off and are stressing a bit less than you should, find time to consider life after school and consult with

Mr Bowman if you need to (have some idea before you go though).

The Senior Social is in Week 10 - Wednesday night at the PCYC. Most of the profit goes to our formal fund if there's any left. Be sure to thank Caitlin for leading the organisation when you come to school on Thursday, absolutely exhausted after an awesome night of cross-school socialising, dancing... and sweat.

If you're interested in helping out for Year 12 fundraising and formal/yearbook organisation, see one of your SRC reps.

Stay cool, THS Year 12... and good luck.

Year 11 Report

Good Day to you all,

I am sure we are all well. We are nearing the end of Term Two already, with less than half of the Preliminary Course to go, and most of us are surviving. Well done.

The other week, Kev from MaxPotential came and had a talk to us about the twenty-two week program that his group and Clubs NSW run. Although many of us did not sign up, I'm sure some of us took advantage of his extended application date. Applications closed on 11 June.

I cannot recall having anything else important happen in the time since the last newsletter, so hence, I bid thee Good Day, and hope that the rest of it is pleasant for you. Sincerely



Cameron Barlin

Year 10 Report

Hello students of Year 10.

How's it going? Are you all liking this weather? It's getting a bit repetitive isn't it?

How do you think you all went in the tests? Good I hope!

I bet you all loved the needles we got the other week too! I know I did.

Love



Fred Pitt

Year 9 Report

Our camp to the Gold Coast is coming up so make sure you keep up to date with your payments. We will choose which theme parks we will go to soon so I hope that we choose some good ones.

Spirit day is coming up! Very exciting, I know. There is a new program in the school for those who volunteer. It would be great for more people to become involved so, to do so, see Ms Tate or Ms Walker.

The year is nearly half way over already! I guess time flies when you are having fun)

That's all from me.

Stay sweet Year 9.



Patrick Abraham

Year 8 Report

Hi Guys,

This year is going okay. Well done to the Year 8 boys for Rugby Union. Unfortunately we lost 23-15 but we put up a good fight.

The social was great with "Struk" playing their songs.

Half yearly reports are coming up so study up. That's all for now though. See you!



Ridge Davidson

SPIRIT DAY

Two weeks till Spirit Day! Start getting EXCITED. Spirit Day is a day run at the end of the year. The idea of Spirit Day came about by seeing the lack of motivation and tiredness among the students mid year. It became obvious that we needed to host a day to boost school moral and excite the students.

This will be our third annual Spirit Day and will be held on 2 July. This year we will be having some never before seen events, but we will be re-visiting old favourites such as Singstar and Obstacle Courses. Also, a little rumour of a Dodgeball tournament is going around. A barbeque at lunch and an ALL DAY cake stall will be happening, courtesy of Year 12. A DJ during lunch time will be playing some beats and hopefully we can get Mrs Ralston to get her groove on as well. Also we have our fiercely competitive house captains organising War Cries.

At the end of the day, after tallying up all the participation points, points earned on the day and points earned from Spirit Cup activities at the Athletics and Swimming carnivals, we will announce the House who wins the famous Spirit Cup.

Maximum attendance is required to make Spirit Day 2010 the BEST. Come along for a good day, and end the term on a brilliant note!

James Kennedy

Taree High School Teacher Honoured Ms Anke de Reuver



Taree High teacher, Ms Anke de Reuver, was recently honoured for her contribution to the Manning Valley in the field of Visual Arts.

The Manning Winter Festival launch was celebrated at the Manning Regional Art Gallery with the announcement of the Visual Art Award which recognises the enormous contributions made to the Greater Taree area in this vital field.

Ms de Reuver was nominated by the Regional Art Gallery Director, Ms Sue Mitchell, and the president of the Friends of the Gallery, Mr Barry Schlenker (a former Taree High School teacher) for her years of support to the visual arts and especially to the Manning Regional Art Gallery. Ms de Reuver has promoted visual arts in the Taree district as an active member of the Regional Art Gallery for more than twenty years.

A proud community member, Ms de Reuver's interests also spread to animal welfare. She has been an active member of FAWNA for ten years and can sometimes be seen at school nursing any number of flying foxes which have been lucky enough to find themselves in her care.

Ms de Reuver describes feeling 'proud but humbled,' receiving the award. She has set herself two goals; one, to keep expanding the gallery and to make it even better, and the other, to encourage her Taree High students to achieve their potential and release their creativity.

Ms de Reuver, Taree High School salutes you.

Senior Debating Team Report

We've had four rounds so far in the challenge, and have won two out of three, with one being a bye. We have now tied with Port Macquarie High School and are going to have a tiebreaker debate to see who goes to the next round.

Here's a summary of our last debate:

Australia should end overseas military involvement.	
Great Lakes College Senior Campus (Affirmative)	Taree High School (Negative)
Military is infantry	Military is all of the defence force, including peacekeeping troops.
Australian military should be used within Australia to focus on problems in Australia, such as poverty in NT.	Humanitarian, overseas aid. Australia is involved in vital peacekeeping missions
Would be better for our economy.	Premptive defence, World War II is the only time Australia has been invaded, and military action
Argued US would still support Australia, even if we weren't involved in overseas military.	Need to support our allies, such as EU and US, this will help our economy and put us in a better political position. Also better for defence.
	By our troops spreading democracy overseas we are helping our economy in two ways 1. Defence force is a big industry, in wages, manufacturing, etc. 2. By creating properly functioning capitalist democracies, we create more trading partners to sell our goods to.

Thank you to everyone who has debated: Laura Polson, Bec Smithers, Cameron Barlin and Felicia Bardan. Also a massive thank you to Mrs Hall for your organisation.



Bill Pitt

Year 10 Debating Team Report

The Year 10 debating team from Taree High has had a strong start to the Premiers Debating Challenge this year. Our first debate against Great Lakes College was a success with the topic of the debate being – “that single sex schools should be banned”,

with some strong arguments from both teams Taree High came out the winners.

For our second debate the topic of – “that social networking sites should only be accessible by people over 18”. After putting our own views aside, as the affirmative team, we managed to come out of the debate victorious once again.

Our next venture is to beat the Taree High Year 9 team to advance the next stage.



Gemma Bylos



Alex Sheather

Year 9 Debating Team Report

On 24 May, the Year 9 debating team consisting of Georgia Braude, Patrick Abraham, Esther Christian and Monique Rennie, went to Chatham High School to compete in the first round of the Years 9/10 Premiers Debating Challenge.

The topic of this debate was that all classes should be streamed on an academic basis.

We were the negative team and we used the hour before the debate to think of a few good arguments that we could use in our case. After a bit of confusion on Chatham's side (in the hour before they wrote their speeches about another topic and we both got an extra half hour). it ended up being an interesting debate and at the end of it the Taree High team ended up being victorious.

On Tuesday 1 June the Year 9 debating team had their second round of the Premiers' Debating Challenge. This time the team was Georgia Braude, Patrick Abraham, Esther Christian and Jessie Collins. We were to verse Great Lakes College Forster Campus.

The topic for this debate was that the Australian Government should filter the internet. This was a highly competitive tissue which both teams had strong views about. We again were the negative team.

Fortunately in this debate the Taree High School team won. We will now debate against the Year 10 team from Taree.

We look forward to doing so.



Georgia Braude



Patrick Abraham

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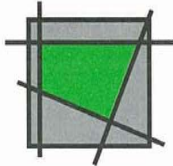
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Taree Eisteddfod

“And in first place again, Taree High School!”

It's been an incredible few weeks over at the Manning Entertainment Centre for the musicians of Taree High School. Students from our school have entered in a number of divisions for the music section of this year's Taree Eisteddfod and have all achieved outstanding results.

The success began on Friday, 14 May when a number of bands from the school competed in separate divisions. The Taree High School band, "Rockestra" opened the day with their two thrilling performances that certified them 1st place in their division.

Although this was mostly due to the fact that they were the only competitors in that division, the band played exceptionally well.

Soon after this, followed the division for Years 7-9 bands, where the two Taree High bands 'Kavit' and 'Bros'd' battled for first place against each other and other schools from around the area. 'Bros'd' finished in 1st place and 'Kavit' with a highly commended. Both bands represented Taree High well with their excellent performances. The division that followed was for bands from Years 10-12. Our well-known band Struk was up first against numerous other performances from a range of schools. The talent displayed in this division was outstanding from a number of schools and, for a moment there, we were beginning to believe that another school might be awarded the 1st place. However, the results were announced and Struk walked away with another victory for their wall.

And so, Taree High students returned to school with a win in every division that they competed in. This was an incredible result! But the success did not end there...

On Wednesday, 9 June the Taree High 'Singas' and 'Fellas' arrived at the MEC for a display of their talents that had been talked about continuously. Both of these groups have received recognition for their outstanding vocal performances and when the time had come to show it all off at the Eisteddfod, they did not disappoint! The 'Singas' were up first with their two performances that "wowed the crowd!" They received 1st place in their division and definitely lived up to their name as an outstanding group! Later, the 'Fellas' were on stage for their division and the general feedback from the audience was how unbelievable it was that there could be so many "boys" singing on stage and loving every minute of it. But they did more than look good - their two songs were delivered with great energy and vocal skill. They also, were awarded 1st place in their division!

Now at the conclusion of these events, we only have one thing to say: "Music at Taree High is unbelievable!"

The school received 1st place in every division they entered! (THS undefeated for the 2010 Taree Eisteddfod!) The musical talent at this school is astonishing!

But it is not only the students that are to be recognised for the success. The two music teachers of this school, Mr Bull and Mrs Ralston are the driving team force that pushes this talent forward! Both consistently put in hours of time and effort to organise and arrange musical performances as well as work with individual students to improve their abilities.

I speak on behalf of the entire body of the musical students in this school when I say, "Thank you!" Thank you for giving us the best music teachers in the world!

Until next time, see you in the music world!

James Kennedy



SES READING

We are now at the 'tail end' of Semester One and our current group of readers are progressing well. In fact we anticipate a couple of our readers will have completed the program by the end of term. Well done !!!

Homework is still an issue for some (that it is not being done). This can be as little as a couple of words to say and practise the spelling, along with understanding the meanings. It would be beneficial for all if this could be 'chased' up at home.

Tiredness is another area that we are seeing more and more of (perhaps staying up too late watching TV or 'talking' on Facebook!). For your children to be actively involved in their lessons they do need a 'good night's sleep' and a healthy breakfast. These two things will help them to retain more during their school day.

It is very pleasing to see the consistent effort that the majority of students are making towards this program. Self improvement is a wonderful thing.



!!!! ☺ Year 8 Drama Night !!!!

The enthusiastic and talented Year 8 Drama students will be showcasing their performances on Thursday 24 of June from 4:30 pm in the hall. Everyone is welcome to come along and support these talented students.

Ms Melissa Loundon



Remember: The personal level of achievement wholly depends on the personal amount of effort put in.
Yours in reading

Stephanie Brown

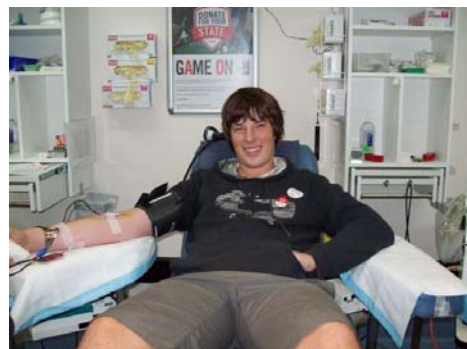


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WHO HAVE
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**THANKS
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T H E
SHIELD**

**COMPETITION FOR THIS YEAR FINISHES AT THE
END OF THIS MONTH. SO FAR, OUR SCHOOL HAS**



**CURRENTLY MADE 154 BLOOD DONATIONS,
WHICH SO FAR HAVE HELPED TO SAVE 462 LIVES.**

VIP STUDENT PRIVILEGES

A number of local businesses have come on board recently to support the Taree High School VIP Scheme. If Platinum Card Holders present their card in these stores, they are entitled to a number of benefits:

Body Bliss Skincare	5% discount
Iguana	10% off full price stock.
Manning Shoe Trends	10% off full price stock.
Jeans West	10% off full price stock.
Lyndy's Cards and Gifts	10% discount.
More Than Gifts	10% off non-sale items.
Taree King Rooster	Special offers and discounts, ask in store.
Manning Mall Newsagency	15% discount.
Infinity	10% discount on gaming products.
Sweet Serendipity	10% discount
Michel's Patisserie Taree	10% off the sum total of a purchase.
Mr Whippy Taree	10% discount.
Bass N Blues	10% discount and up to 15% off an special promotions
Gloria Jeans Coffee Taree	TBC

INTERNET BANKING

When paying the school via Internet Banking please enter student's name and what you are paying

e.g. W & M Collins Fees or
W Collins Yr 7 Camp/Art Fee.

At present we have two unidentified deposits - one for \$124.70 on 14 May which quotes a number which I can't trace (would say it is for two students) and the other for \$49.85 on 3 June with no name but school contribution fees.

Please contact Wendy Collins on 6552 1166 if you think these are your payments.



STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Taree High School has a focus on student attendance to enhance learning outcomes. Attendance at school is compulsory for all children between the ages of six and seventeen.

This is a **change** from the previous '**leaving age**' of **fifteen years**, which existed until the **end of 2009, when new legislation was enacted**.

Our school staff are working collaboratively with the HSLO (Home School Liaison Officer) assigned to the Taree High School area to attempt to reinforce that **students will achieve better outcomes for themselves if they attend every day the school is open**.

During Term One, 2010 our school conducted a **NIPS (Non-attendance Interview Program)** with Years 7 and 8, to identify students who were having difficulty with regular attendance. Students who fell into the 'concerning' category were interviewed by a welfare teacher, year advisor or HSLO, to determine if the school could assist in any way to help improve the student's attendance.

Our focus is on providing constructive and supportive suggestions which students and parents may consider employing.

The program has been extended to include Years 9 and 10 in Term Two, 2010. With a follow up of all years in Terms 3 and 4.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact the school on 65521166.

Mr Steve Harris HT Attendance
Ms Rosemarie Kelly-HSLO Home School Liaison Officer



Wired

On Tuesday 1 June Years 10, 11 and 12 students were invited to a live performance of a play called "WIRED".

"WIRED" follows the story of a 17 year old girl during her Year 12 examinations and an 18 year old boy who is trying to deal with the consequences of some of his previous decisions. They are both facing very difficult life challenges. These being: struggles with work load, stress and depression.

It showed students why adolescents can become stressed and/or depressed. The show addressed planning, study habits, relationships, support services and networks, communication, positive self-talk, mental illness, fear of failure or success, peer pressure and motivation.

A main issue in the show was how easily your life can be turned around by your choices.

The play was highly enjoyable, and all students remained respectful and interested. Students also came away with new ideas about wellbeing and their physical and emotional balance.

Thank you Mrs Crozier for letting us partake in such a useful opportunity.



Laura Polson

Later we assembled back to have a generously supplied amount of cookies and fruit for morning tea.

After morning tea, we got a visit from Jay, the school's Aboriginal Education Officer. He took us around the Saltwater environment revealing sacred places and stories about his family. Some of the most interesting was the Gateway to the learning and the beautiful natural pillars of the Wedding Tree.

Next was lunch, with teachers cooking up a delicious barbeque. We went down to the beach and created ephemeral artworks inspired by Andy Goldsworthy. These artworks were sculptures made of things from nature, such as rocks, sand, leaves etc. Every group ended up with a unique and interesting display that they then captured through photography.

The day was very valuable for our art and has given as many ideas. We would like to thank Mrs Finlayson and Ms de Reuver for putting on such a fantastic day.



Laura Polson.



In May, Taree High Year 11 art students went on an excursion to Saltwater Beach at Wallabi Point. The purpose of the excursion was to find inspiration for our term's work.

In the morning we were equipped with lots of assorted art equipment. We were then sent to explore the surrounding beach and capture a natural landscape. We could do this through taking photographs, or paintings pictures in our books.

Year 9 and 10 Bushwalk

On 14 May our Year 9 and 10 Bush and Camp Craft class went on a bush walk at Swans Crossing situated in Kerewong State Forest.

It was an hour bus trip and an hour and a half bush walk. The walk was tiring, but the views were good! We each had our own water bottle so that we could drink it during our walk if we needed it. The weather was lovely.

After we finished our bush walk we were given a Metho stove and a pan to cook our sausages and onions and tomatoes. We had to take our own knife, fork, spatula and tongs to cook with. Some of the kids made an open fire and they used that to cook their food.



The toilets weren't very nice!!!! They were pit toilets and nobody liked them.

As it was a minimal impact bushwalking excursion we made sure we mostly stayed on the track, we put our rubbish in the bins, we picked up other peoples rubbish, we left animal and plants alone and we didn't toss our rubbish.

Some students experienced anxiety and stress when the walk got very steep, when they got bitten by a leech and when they were walking beside the steep hill. Their friends helped them keep going.

Overall our bush walk was great fun. We enjoyed: the challenging bushwalk, the creek, making a fire, our friends' company, cooking our food, the weather, the views, and some of us were pleased when we finally found our way out!

We did not like: the pit toilet, the leeches, falling into the water and having to go home.



Jamie Moorehead Interview



Recently, the SRC's nick Johnson caught up with one of our new Learning Support Officers for 2010, Jamie Moorehead

Nick: What school did you used to go to?

Jamie: When I was a youngen I went to St Clare's High School.

Nick: Is our school better then St Clare's?

Jamie: Of course it is mate. Without a doubt.

Nick: Enjoying being back at school?

Jamie: Yeah It is actually pretty good, I didn't think I would enjoy it as much as I do.

Nick: What do you like to do in your spare time?

Jamie: Hang with friends/girlfriend; watch the footy and a bit of basketball here and there.

Nick: Favourite food?

Jamie: Spag Bole is always good.

Nick: Kids Behaving for you?

Jamie: Yeah most of the kids are normally well behaved, not a problem.

Nick: Any plans after this?

Jamie: Not at the moment, maybe look into something at the end of the year. I'm not really sure.

Nick: How about the Staff?

Jamie: Yeah they are pretty good, easy to make conversation with, pretty lucky.

Thanks for your time Jamie, hope you enjoy your stay at Taree High School.

By Nick Johnson.



Horse troubles at the school agriculture farm



On Thursday 3 June 2010 we had a little bit of trouble with our horse named Tyson.

He was stuck on the wrong side of the creek so a group of kids from a Year 9/10 class tried to lead him back cross at a shallow piece of creek. Stephanie Harrison did the leading and as she was half way across she slipped in the loose pebbles and did the splits across the creek. It was very funny because she got very wet.

After this little problem, Tyson walked straight over and was back on the right side while Stephanie was still in the creek



By Natarlya Hennessy.

SPECIAL EDUCATION— ABORIGINAL SITE STUDY

On Tuesday 8 June, twenty Special Ed students had a very informative and educational day. They firstly visited the Cundletown Historical Museum to view the history of the Manning Region. Students saw the old photos, shipwrecks, record players, shoe and boot making articles, tools and recorded history items.

We then visited Saltwater, walked around the lagoon and imagined what life was like for the ancient Aboriginal people and their culture. We listened to a Dreamtime story while sitting in the silence of the bush.

Students enjoyed the snack and barbeque lunch, before hearing Jesse Thompson's Dreamtime story of the fighting tribes and Jesse is now very willing to develop this legend and present the concept using modern technology.

All students and staff enjoyed the day and are planning another similar excursion.



SPORT

Regional Cross-country Report

On Friday 28 May athletes from all over the Hunter region arrived at the Walka Water Works near Maitland for the running regional cross-country. The weather on the day was very good but due to rain earlier in the week, the track was quite wet and slippery in some places. Taree High competed very strongly throughout the day with some great results. The best came from Sean Saddler who finished 2nd in the under 18 age group. For those who managed to gain a place in the regional team, State will be held on 23 July at the Eastern Creek Raceway.



Open Hockey

The Taree High School Open Girls' Hockey team are through to the Regional Finals after defeating Chatham 8-nil, Newcastle High 16-nil and Merewether 14-nil. The girls will now play Wingham on 16 June to see who will progress through to the next round in 1st and 2nd position. Good luck to the girls in their up and coming games.

CHS Open Hockey



During Week 7 this term, the Hunter Girls Hockey team competed in the State Championships. The Hunter team consisted of four Taree High students: Rachel Hinton, Maddy Rosser, Nicole Howard and Caitlin

Rosser.

Hunter had a very good tournament, winning 2 games and losing 2, although the girls were placed in a very strong pod. Due to wet weather, the playoff games were cancelled, but Hunter finished a high 5th on goal averages (four places better than last year). The four girls represented both the Hunter Region and Taree High School to the best of their ability.

Rugby Union

Years 7-8 played a good game of Rugby Union against Port Macquarie. The score was 15-23. We lost but we had a good game in the second half.

The 16 Year boys lost against Port 15-0. Two people went to hospital but they are okay. Thanks Mr Deehan and Mr Eady for letting us go to Macca's.

P & C News

School Sport Surfing

Congratulations to Ben Wynter of Year 11 for reaching the State Surfing competition. Unfortunately he broke his board at a critical point in the finals and lost a lot of time getting a new board to finish the heat with.

He came a credible 5th place in the state for U19 boys under these circumstances.

Ian Reynolds, Surfing Coordinator

CONGRATULATIONS

Teegan McCloy	Shooting
Ben Wynter	5th State School Surfing
Maddy Rosser	Selection in the U16 All Schools NSW Hockey Team. They will play in the Australian All Schools Championships in August this year
Fellas	1st place, Taree Eisteddfod
Singas	1st place, Taree Eisteddfod

Year 7, 8,9,10 and Senior Debates

Yr 7 Yr 8	Year 8 Debating Team won their first debate against Year 7
Yr 9	Won two debates against Chatham and Great Lakes Foster Campus
Yr 10	Won two debates against Forster Campus Great Lakes College and Chatham High
Senior	Won two debates against Great Lakes College Tuncurry Senior Campus

Tom Crellin, Saiya Deehan and Kumari Lamotte	Recipients of Wingham High School's A1 Status Awards
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Greenhill Speedway 2010 NSW Junior Dirt Track Championships

Brodie Magennis	1st 85cc 2st/150 4st Boys U16 1st 200cc to 250cc 4st Boys U16
Hayden Shubert	3rd 85cc 2st/150 4st Boys U16

Hello to all parents and carers,

We'd like to bring to your attention a great new initiative of The Smith Family. It's called the SaverPlus program and its aim is to help with the costs of education for students.

Details are as follows:

The Smith Family is running a Saver Plus program to assist families on lower incomes save for their own or their children's education. Every one dollar saved by participants is matched with one dollar from ANZ: up to \$500, to buy books, computers and uniforms. If you are over 18, have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, regular income from paid employment and children enrolled in school (or kinder) or if you are returning to study or you are an apprentice/trainee, please contact Gabrielle Beckley on 6557 8284.

At our last meeting Melanie Walker told us of the volunteering program for students in Years 9 and 10. Both Melanie and Barbara Tate are encouraging students to volunteer in some way either in school or in the community and to log the hours completed. Volunteering not only builds a great sense of community but can also help to improve your resume when looking for paid employment. If you think your child might like to volunteer somewhere please encourage them to contact either Ms Walker or Ms Tate. They'd love to hear from them.

Our next meeting will be held at 5.00 pm in the library on Tuesday 22 June. We'd really like to see some new faces. Even if it's only just the occasional meeting you are able to attend, please come along.

We hope to have lots of information pertinent to parents up on the Taree High School website very soon. If there's something which you think would be useful for others to know via the website, please send us your suggestions via our email address tareehspanc@gmail.com

Thank you all,
Hope to see you Tuesday

Madeleine Leonard

Attention All Knitters

Can you knit? Can you sew? We need you!

“Knit in” is a fantastic community event supporting the organisation Wrap with Love, which creates colourful warm “wraps” for communities in need around the world.

A knitting group for students who wish to learn to knit has started Tuesday in the Library.

Instructions for making squares:



Below are some instructions from WRAP WITH LOVE on how to make squares for our KNIT IN campaign.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAKING SQUARES

SQUARES FOR WRAPS: need to measure 10 inches x 10 inches (25cm x 25cm)

KNITTED SQUARES: to knit a 10 inch x 10 inch square use size 8 (4mm) needles, 8 ply yarn, cast on 50-55 stitches and knit each row plain (ie garter stitch)

NOTE: test your tension to measure 10 inches (25cm)

DO NOT KNIT: one row plain, one row purl (ie: stocking stitch) as your square will curl up

NO KNOTS: Start each ball of yarn at the beginning of a row and sew in ends. Do not cut ends off short, as your square will unravel. When starting or finishing a square, sew in all ends.

DIAGONAL SQUARES (see diagram)

Cast on 3 stitches.

Row 1: K1, increase 1 in next stitch, knit to end of row.

Repeat Row 1 until side edge measures 10 inches (25cm)

Next Row: K1, K2 together, knit to end of row. Repeat this row until 3 stitches remain, cast off

COMPLETED WRAPS ARE PREFERRED (see diagram)

Wraps are made up of 28 squares, as per diagram.

Across: 4 squares = 40 inches (102 cm)

Down: 7 squares = 70 inches (178 cm)



Please keep joins on the same side and flat.

Wraps can be knitted, crocheted, machine knitted, woven or patchwork-lined to finish 40 inches x 70 inches (102cm x 178cm)



ABC
Mid North Coast

**TAREE HIGH SCHOOL P&C ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEETING
25 May 2010**

MEETING OPENED 5.01 pm by President Madeleine Leonard

ATTENDANCE 11 as per attendance book

APOLOGIES Beth Fuller, Peter Bird, Barbara Tate

PREMIERS STUDENT VOLUNTEERING AWARDS

Melanie Walker spoke about the Award program that the school is going to adopt.

Barbara Tate will work with Year 9 and Melanie Walker with Year 10. Students have been asked for expressions of interest in participating in the program.

Folders for use as log books will be required for participating students.

Further information was included in the newsletter distributed in May

The awards acknowledge voluntary work done at school and in the community.

The program is only for Year 9 and 10 – discussion about the possibility of recognising older students and a possible P&C award was also had

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of previous meeting 27 April 2010 accepted. *M Leonard / M Armstrong*

BUSINESS ARISING

Madeleine will include details of the Smith Family Savings Plan in the next newsletter.

Chris will prepare an article for the school website outlining the student insurance policy and what it covers.

Naplan testing went ahead and ran smoothly.

CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

As per report tabled by Merilyn Armstrong.

Information about 'The World of Adolescent Boys' meeting to be included in the next newsletter.

TREASURER'S REPORT

No change to accounts this month.

D Jowett / M Leonard

\$35,000 is on term deposit with total funds of \$35,855.36.

CANTEEN FINANCIAL REPORT

Report tabled by Lesley Wade

L Wade / M Leonard

Trading has improved this month

Balance of \$3,257.38 at 30 April 2010

Signatories are in the process of being changed

The claim for wages rebate can now be made for the Jobfind employee. Lesley and Chris will organize a tax invoice and forward it for payment.

CANTEEN MANAGER'S REPORT

Report presented by Dana Jowett.

Another attempted break in - three out of six windows not operational. – Mark will contact O'Donnell and Hanlon

Council Health Inspector visited and as well as a positive report recommended a structural upgrade including floor, bench and cupboard replacement.

Madeleine will contact Noel McManus at district office again regarding canteen concerns.

Hot food is selling well.

Volunteers are making a big difference in the canteen. Their assistance with serving is very much

appreciated. Hours completed will count towards the volunteer certificate. Madeleine to put a thank you in the next newsletter.

PRINCIPAL'S / DEPUTY REPORT

Report presented by Mark Thomson.

New STLA appointed and name to be announced shortly.

Stage 5 review outcomes will see one 50 hour line retained for years 9 and 10. The delivery of History, Geography and PD/H/PE will take place over 3 periods per cycle for the entire year. Stage 6 - The school is working flexibly to meet the needs of students, particularly those in the 15-17 program.

Renovations –Tiling in A Block toilets, painting under A Block and lockers have been moved. Year 9 have received laptops.

Taree North Rotary Club has some money to donate and an additional lectern is being sort. The Men's Shed may assist.

Vana Ford is the new principal at Taree Primary and the two schools are working together on a variety of initiatives – sports coaching, garden, peer literacy, use of facilities etc.

Allison to speak on cyber bullying at the next meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Folders for the volunteer program will be donated for the Volunteer Program – the canteen has enough of these in stock.

Beth Fuller with assistance from Allison is working on the format and content for the P&C section of the school website. Any suggestions and/or contributions would be greatly appreciated. These can be forwarded to Beth via E-mail

The assessment schedule is confusing for parents to read – difficult to decode subjects – Mark to look at this.

Chris Jones will forward a donation of \$150.00 from the P&C to Far West.

The absence of tea and coffee at the recent parent teacher meetings was noted with comments from several parents that after a day at work and then straight to the meetings it is appreciated particularly if gaps between meetings are long.

Discussion on the Year 12 jackets and whether a senior jacket for years 11 and 12 would maximize the wear that they get out of them. This years jacket look great.

NEXT MEETING Tuesday 22 June 2010, 5pm, in the library

MEETING CLOSED **6.15 pm**

Manning Valley Neighbourhood Services presents:

Celia Lashlie

**'HE'LL BE OK:
GROWING GORGEOUS BOYS INTO GOOD MEN:
The World of Adolescent Boys'**

A SEMINAR FOR PARENTS, WORKERS AND THE COMMUNITY

Date: Tuesday 20th July 2010 Time: 6.30pm—8.30pm

Venue: The Waterfront Room, Exchange Hotel, Manning St TAREE

Cost: \$10 (must be paid prior to event)

RSVP: 12th July 2010

Registrations are essential as places are limited!

Please make cheques out to: Manning Valley Neighbourhood Services



A researcher and social commentator, Celia Lashlie worked for 15 years within the New Zealand Prison Service starting as the first woman to work as a prison officer in a male prison. Her final role within the service was as Manager of Christchurch Women's Prison.

Celia now works on a number of projects, all of which are linked to improving the lives of at-risk children and empowering families to find their own solutions to the challenges they face.

She worked on the "Good Man Project" with 25 boys schools throughout New Zealand aimed at creating a working definition of what makes a good man in the 21st century. What arose from the project was a significant insight into the minds of teenage boys and raised some challenging suggestions for parents and the community if they want to see their sons to become the good men they want them to be.



**"Celia Lashlie—Author,
researcher and social
commentator**

Celia is a great speaker and her talk gives plenty of food for thought and plenty of hints at how to work with teenage boys. Everyone will find something valuable in this talk—regardless of whether they have sons or not.

For more information or a registration form please contact:

**Manning Valley Neighbourhood Services Inc
Phone 65535121 or Email mvns@mvns.org.au**