



TAREE HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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QUEENSLAND FLOOD RELIEF FUNDRAISER



Lunch time concert



Lunch time concert



Lunch time concert



CANTEEN
Dana - Supervisor



Out of Uniform
Ms Gurr



Lunch time concert



Ms Walker, Ms Ralston, Ms Burton, Ms Alliston,
James Kennedy, Mr Bull, Laura Polson, Ms Tate

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Never boring!

It never ceases to amaze me just how complicated and interesting a high school can be. We have 12 year olds who are not yet allowed up the street and 19 year olds who are sole carers of their families. We have kids who struggle to write their name and those ready to study medicine. We have staff with nil years of experience bristling with enthusiasm, and staff with 30 years or more experience. We have brand new state of the art science labs and kitchens and rooms largely untouched for nearly 90 years. In the senior school alone we have students readying themselves for a multitude of destinations from university to employment. We are constantly working to meet these students' needs by modifications to curriculum and curriculum structure. This year alone we have added Retail Operations, Visual Design and Photography. We have more students studying at TAFE than ever before. The innovative 'Careerlink' structure is more popular than ever. More and more students are having laptops integrated into their learning. We share curriculum with other schools and will shortly be in partnership with even more. The junior curriculum has been enhanced by the extremely popular high school musical *Little Shop of Horrors* (look out for this one come August).

We continue to work hard to develop productive learning relationships with our community of schools. This year live GATS maths lessons should challenge those gifted mathematicians in primary schools. We have students of all ages competing in sports ranging from lawn bowls to rugby league. Students engage in debating, public speaking, connected learning awards, mock trials and mooting. A wide range of medical needs are seen to including anaphylaxis and acute asthma. Students with a wide range of disabilities mix seamlessly with the wider population.

Year 10 are about to undertake work experience. Years 7, 9 and 11 will travel to all corners of the state with year excursions. Taree High is forever a worksite, with improvements being constant.

So when one of my well meaning mates or family members asks me 'What's happening?' I generally sigh and say 'not much,' because an explanation would take at least as long as the preceding paragraph.

Just when we thought we had everything under control this year two things happened.

- 1) A lot more students engaged in TAFE studies than ever before and...
- 2) We did not have the usual uptake of positions in Year 9. This resulted in the need to collapse one Year 9 class to meet staffing reductions.

This largely means a review of the whole school's timetable, no mean task when you have to consider all of the above. How Raylene Starke with Allison Alliston and Val Kadarusman and their helpers from all corners of the executive are able to achieve this is beyond me. **It's like trying to fix an aeroplane while it is flying.**

Congratulations to Mick Crotty on his permanent appointment to the Deputy Principal role a well earned effort. The school will benefit from Mick's calm manner and years of experience and the potential he brings to the role. Mick has been relieving in this role and has not really had a chance to celebrate, so if you see him help him out with a hearty congratulations and a pat on the back.

While still on staffing one of Mick's first jobs will be to find a replacement head teacher of Maths. No easy boots to fill. Allison Alliston meanwhile, amongst other things, is on the hunt for a new PE/H/PE Head Teacher to replace Paul Ivers, another set of big boots TO FILL.

A big thank you to all those involved in these merit selection processes. Our parents, teachers and Aboriginal communities are all giving up slabs of time to help. All these people make wonderful contributions and always conduct themselves in a professional manner of which we can all be very proud.



Mr Peter Bird

Dates to Remember

21/3/11	Hunter Boys Basketball Photo catch up
22/3/11	P & C Meeting 5.00 pm at school library
23/3/11	Hunter Rugby League, Girls Football, School Cross Country, School Social
24,25-26/3/11	CHS Swimming
31/3/11	Hunter Water Polo, Rugby League
1/4/11	Hunter Girls Touch Football
4/4/11	CHS Rowing Year 7 Vaccinations
5/4/11	CHS Rowing, Hockey Trials
7/4/11	Out of Uniform Day
8/4/11	Term 1 ends, Athletics Carnival
27/4/11	School Development Day
28/4/11	Students return for Term 2

DEPUTY'S REPORT

'A Chat with Mr Crotty'



Recently, I caught up with Taree High's newest deputy, Mr Crotty. He's a well-known and appreciated figure in the school and has been teaching as Head of Mathematics for over two decades.

His hobbies include coaching soccer, playing golf, Sudoku and algebra. He also researches Mathematics; a topic I sense is quite broad, but can't begin to understand. He considers the new position of Deputy as a challenge, but one he is well equipped for, having filled the position temporarily in the past.

When Mr Crotty moved to Taree from Lake Cargelligo, a small town in the middle of NSW, he brought with him an incredible passion for Maths. This has expressed itself as enthusiasm in the classroom and made him a favourite among the students.

Mr Crotty believes that the ability to cater for a wide variety of students makes Taree High a strong school. We are able to produce gifted academics and also mentor those who struggle with learning disabilities. Another quality he feels is upheld in the school is respect. He believes that good relationships are maintained through respect for teachers and the respect that students have for each other.

On a more personal note, Mr Crotty was very open with me, revealing purple as his favourite colour. It makes a lot of sense when you know it was Pythagoras' favourite too.

The SRC would like to congratulate Mr Crotty on his promotion and wish him well in the years to come.



Sam Kellahan

DEPUTY'S REPORT

The focus of my column this month is our concern about the high number of students coming to school consuming "high energy" drinks. An alarming number of students have also been observed with these drinks at recess and lunch. They are not sold at the canteen and are actually on the banned list under the Healthy Schools Canteen Strategy. We have banned them from the school and seek parental support on this matter. Below are some facts to support our concerns regarding these drinks. Remember the best hydrator is water and the best way to achieve the nutritional needs is through a healthy diet including a good breakfast.

Because so many kids are getting hooked on caffeinated energy drinks, there have been a lot of studies done to examine the possible effects of the stimulant on young bodies. It usually takes between five and thirty minutes for caffeine to circulate throughout an average adult body after you drink a cup of coffee. However, the effects can last as long as the caffeine hangs around in your blood system, which is usually for about twelve hours.

Now, give that same amount of caffeine to a child on a regular basis and the effects are doubled. However, many parents concentrate on the drink itself, rather than what it contains. For example, most parents wouldn't give their 8-year-old three cups of coffee, but they have no problem buying them an energy drink – even though the caffeine in just one energy drink is equal to three cups of coffee. You tell me what's worse?

The side effects you might experience depend on the drink's ingredients. Many drinks are made with a high percentage of carbohydrates. This will often make it harder for food and nutrients to be absorbed into your bloodstream, so your energy boost might not be as high or as effective. Excess carbohydrates can also cause the drinker to experience some gastrointestinal problems – especially if you drink one right before performing intense activity.

Energy drinks also tend to be packed with a lot of fructose and sugar, which can often have laxative effects on your body. Sugar causes your energy levels (or insulin levels) to come crashing down once the sugar leaves the bloodstream. Energy drinks high in sugar are good for a short-term buzz, as they stimulate your nervous system quickly, which usually makes you feel more energetic at first. However, the sugar is used up in a short period, and the drinker is often left feeling more fatigued than they were to begin with. If your drink contains high amounts of sugar, regular consumption will lead to dental health problems such as cavities.

Caffeine also increases your heart rate and body temperature. Too much of this stimulant can cause

an irregular heartbeat, excessive sweating, jitters and anxiousness, and excessive urination (dehydration). This is hardly ideal if you want to concentrate for an exam or get in the mindset for a competitive event.

On top of that, high amounts of caffeine can reduce your coordination and balance. Too many energy drinks with caffeine will disturb your sleeping patterns. These are the reasons that top the list of why children, pregnant women and people with heart conditions should avoid energy drinks.



Ms Allison Aliston

DEPUTY'S REPORT

Technology Update

What a busy time we have had over the last few weeks. The final organisation is being carried out for the installation of a further twelve Smartboards across the school. It is planned that this will happen during the Easter holidays so that there is minimal disruption to staff and students. This will bring the number of fixed boards within the school to thirty four along with two additional mobile smartboards. Staff are continuing to undergo training in this technology and many new teaching resources have been developed across all teaching areas.

Year 9 parents were well represented in our Parent Information evening for the issuing of student laptops. The signed charters began coming in immediately and ninety percent of students have now been issued with their laptops. It is fantastic to walk around the school and seeing so many students actively engaged in learning using their laptops. Keep up the good work charging them every night ready for each new school day and remember that if you are having problems with your laptop see

Mr Fenton.



Raylene Starke
Deputy Principal
National Partnerships

CAPTAINS' REPORT

The SRC have once again proven they are a dynamic and enthusiastic bunch of students. From the word "go" on the first day back at school this year, this group got straight to work on organising a fundraiser for the Queensland Flood Appeal. During the Christmas holidays, after witnessing the devastation of the floods in Queensland, the four Captains (Laura, James, Bec and Tom) got in contact with

each other and all agreed that we needed to show our support as a school community. The SRC organised an Out-of-Uniform day and lunchtime music concert for Thursday, 17 February to raise money for the cause. As an entire effort, Taree High raised a total of \$4519.25. We would like to thank all the students and staff for their support. (For more information, read the "Queensland Flood Relief Fundraiser" article further on in this newsletter).

This year's first school social is going to be on 23 March (Wednesday, Week 8). This event will be held in the school hall from 7.00 pm-10.00 pm. The theme is "From Another Time" – dress to impress! Tickets will be at a cost of \$5.00 and will go on sale around a week before the event during recess and lunchtimes. We want to encourage all students to attend – with their outfits and dancing shoes on! Our socials are a lot of fun, run by the SRC under the safety of our staff members.

On the last day of this term, Taree High will be running its Athletics Carnival for 2011. Throughout the Carnival, the SRC will be coordinating novelty games between the main athletic events for students to compete in. At this point, the events we have decided on are three-legged races, sack races and tug-o-war. Students will compete with others from their age groups to gain points for their sporting houses in the Spirit Cup.

For those who don't already know, the Spirit Cup is an initiative, started up by the SRC around three years ago. It aims at improving school spirit at Taree High School. Every year, on the last day of Term 2, the Taree High SRC host their annual "Spirit Day". This is an exciting day where no timetabled lessons run. Instead, there are a number of fun challenges and activities involving students and staff competing in their sporting houses. There is also a one hour lunchtime with loud dance music in the main quad and plenty of food stalls throughout the day. The event concludes with all four sporting houses coming together for an outstanding display of spirit and enthusiasm, as they chant their "war cries". At the end of the day, the house with the most points (from the Spirit Day and Athletics Carnival games) wins the "Spirit Cup".

Watch this space for more reports on the organisation and planning of Spirit Day as well as an evaluation of its anticipated success!



James Kennedy



Laura Polson

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The SRC is hardworking yet again with many initiatives and fundraisers ahead in the not too distant future.

With the school social coming up on Wednesday 23 March (Week 8) we need everyone to be in attendance for this one to go ahead. The theme for this social is From Another Time, which means you need to dress up from another time eg a Roman, or old school (80's). So get to the op shop and get some old people hand me downs or you could come as someone or something from the future.

Are you over the age of 16 years old? If so you should really consider giving blood at the Red Cross donor centre across the road from school. If you are interested you need to talk to your year reps, or Brittany Johnson as she is the rep for the Vampire Shield. It really isn't that scary and they even feed you and give you a drink.

The SRC have been asked by Mr May to promote the core values for each year group to foster a safe and caring Taree High School learning environment. Look out for these in Year Meetings. Murals will be erected soon in Year areas. The core value for each year is:

Year 7	Cooperation
Year 8	Participation
Year 9	Respect
Year 10	Responsibility
Year 11	Integrity
Year 12	Excellence

That is all from me for now.

Nick Johnson



YEAR 12 REPORT

S'up Year 12?

Photos, jackets and Social! It's ALL happening! Hope we all look stunning in the photos. Our new jackets are pretty cool too.

The Social is on Wednesday of Week 8, 23 March. The theme is 'From Another Time'. Tickets are \$5.00. Get in quick before they sell out.

I assume this is the last newsletter before the half yearly's, so I would like to wish everybody good luck in their exams. Study hard!

Peace.

Cameron Barlin



YEAR 11 REPORT

Hey everyone,

How's all the homework? Remember to look good for school photos on 17 March. We've also got the social around the corner and tickets will be sold soon, so get in fast to reserve your spot.

Another thing to remember is the snow trip payments.

One last thing, let's make sure that any rubbish that finds its way into our area also find its way into the bin.

Thanks guys, until next time,

Edward Eden



YEAR 10 REPORT

Hey Year 10!

Now we are back into all of the hard work in school, and are probably all snowed under with assignments and tests, but we are halfway through and will have holidays soon.

The social is coming up in Week 8 and the theme is 'From Another Time' and it would be really good if you could come. We haven't had one the last two times and it would be great if we can have one again. We should have our Year 10 shirts soon which will be pretty mad. There are many sporting team try outs so good luck to everyone. Not much else is new so see you 'round Year 10.

Patrick Abraham



YEAR 9 REPORT

Hi guys,

Good work with your generous donations for the Queensland flood appeal on the out of uniform day. For those of you who went, I hope you enjoyed the music gig. There were some very talented performers!

Camp is coming which is exciting. Don't forget to keep up to date with the latest installments.

Another exciting thing is the social which is in Week 8. We haven't had one in a while so if you want this one to go ahead you need to get in early for your tickets. Let's make this one a success! Don't forget about school photos in Week 7.

Goodbye for now,

Madeline Heron



YEAR 8 REPORT

Hi all,

The first couple of weeks of Year 8 have been good. We are getting used to the Year 8 area but some people are still hanging around the Year 7 area. If you're in Year 8 come up and join us!

There's not much else happening in Year 8.

Tyler McLean



YEAR 7 REPORT

Hey guys!

It's a weird feeling isn't it? Going from the top of the school to being the smallest and youngest (We think most people have gotten flash backs from the days when they started school) or from coming from a small school where everyone knows everyone to being just another person in the crowd.

It has been a difficult first few weeks in which we all had to figure out how to read our timetables and get used to the idea of more than two teachers not to mention remembering all their names, we think we've all settled in well though.

I don't know about you guys but we're definitely looking forward to the social coming up next Wednesday, a first but not last for all us Year seveners.

Have a great first term!



Gabbie Aarons-Burton and Danielle Jeffrey

P & C MEETING
22 March 2011
5.00 pm at school library.
All welcome

YEAR 9 ADVISER'S REPORT

Dear Year 9 2011,

By now you will have your laptops and you will be constantly on them doing school work. This is very pleasing, especially for me, because every time I go to the Year 9 area at school, I will be able to talk of other things, not "when you get your laptop." I know it is very exciting, but make sure you do the right thing and do your school work.

We have quite a few new students in Year 9, and all seem to be settling in really well. Thanks to the students who have shown friendship and assistance to these new students.

By now you would have your new timetable. Make sure you rewrite it somewhere as well as pasting it in your diary. Parents, if you are reading this, please make sure your student has a diary to record assessment tasks, homework, events etc so you can remind your child when they are nearly due. Parents would be shocked to see how many students come to ask for a copy of a timetable.

The Year 9 excursion/camp at the Tallebudgera Campsite on the Gold Coast is on the week of June 6 to 10 inclusive. The camp had **rave reviews** from Year 9 students and teachers from 2010. It sounds like an incredible experience. Each day, there are activities organized by the Tallebudgera staff, as well as the chance to head off to the Theme Parks. The food sounds incredible and I have not heard a negative comment yet.

Subject contributions need to be paid up to date from Year 7 and Year 8, so only those students who have paid may attend this camp. Each child has been invoiced for these subject contributions in 2009 and 2010. I think this is very fair, as Taree High offers a wide variety of courses to suit all students. The contributions are extremely fair and cover the cost of the materials used. Quite a few students quote that "public schooling is free". I have been quoting back to them that the contributions cover the great food that they have cooked, or the windmill or treasure box that they made, or the artwork that Grandma loves etc. Students who have not paid outstanding school fees will not be allowed to attend the Year 10 Social for example, or participate in non-compulsory excursions that are organized. The contributions are compulsory. Participation in the Year 9 camp depends on getting the previous two years up to date. Parents are able to make regular small installments if this makes payment easier. I have been suggesting to students that they help by earning money by having a part-time job, or mowing Grandma's lawn etc. The next installment for camp is due on 18 March.

Full school uniform has become extremely important at Taree High. Because of the proximity of

the skate park and town centre, we need to identify any student entering or outside the school premises. Full school uniform is the easiest way to identify our students. **Shoes** are also a 'big deal', because of the O H and S issues regarding Woodwork, Cooking, Science, Metalwork and other elective subjects. Students have been informed of the 'correct' shoes. Shoe shops also have posters of the types of appropriate shoes suitable for Taree High School students.

Wow! There is so much info above. Students are informed at Year meetings, so they actually DO know of this information. I feel that we will have an eventful and successful year. Congratulations to all those students who have part-time jobs!!

Yours in education,



Mrs Silcock

Queensland Flood Relief Fundraiser

The New Year started successfully for the SRC with a record breaking fund-raiser, supporting the victims of the Queensland flood crisis. On 17 February, the SRC hosted their first Out-of-Uniform day for 2011. On this day, funds were raised from a variety of sources:

- Roll call Out-of-Uniform donations (some gave up to \$100!)
- A lunchtime music concert in the hall with an entry fee of \$2.00
- Full takings from the school canteen for the day
- Coffee sales to staff by Year 12 Hospitality students

This combination resulted in a total amount of \$4519.25 being raised by Taree High School! This is a great achievement that we should all be proud of.

As well as recognising the fantastic organisation of this event by the SRC, we would really like to thank everyone that made the success of this day possible. "Thanks" to the P & C committee who generously donated the canteen's income on the day. (This donation was the entire takings for the day and not just the profit)"Thanks to Ms Tate and her Hospitality students for kindly giving up their lunch

time to make and sell coffee to staff.

"Thanks" to music teachers Ms Ralston and Mr Bull whose hard work and planning led to the success of the music concert. This concert was held over an extended lunchtime of one hour and attracted an audience of over 300 students and staff!

"Thanks" to all the bands and musicians who performed at this concert. They were Kavit; Tash Howard; Ben Petrisic and Riana Ward; Ben Petrisic, Otto Fallson-Ree and Pat Abraham; Luke Lightenberg and Kasee Whatson; Brodie Bunch; Jacob Davy; Amber Jenkins; The Sick Lads and Struk.

We would also like to give a huge "Thanks" to everyone who showed their support on the day. The positive attitude coming from the students was overwhelming!

It is clear that the success of these types of events at Taree High is not only due to the hard work of a small group of people. It is because of the enormous amount of school spirit and positive attitudes shown by the entire school community. By working together as a whole, Taree High School has come up with a wonderful result.

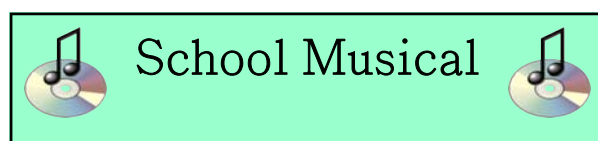
The two of us are both very honoured to be Captains of such a great school.



James Kennedy



Laura Polson



On Thursday 10 February about 60 students from the new 50 hour course 'School Musical' travelled to Sydney to watch the musical "Open for Inspection". Teachers, Miss Loundon and Mrs Ralston hoped that it would teach us more about musicals and inspire us for our musical. We left school just before lunch time.

After a quick stop at Macca's for an early dinner we proceeded on to Darlinghurst Theatre because the show started at 8 pm. The theatre was only small but this didn't detract from the quality of the performance. The musical had everyone laughing whilst at the same time blowing us away with the amazing vocals. The musical finished at 10.30 pm

which meant we got back to school at around 3 am. But the bus trip back was definitely worth it. The musical we will be performing is “*Little Shop of Horrors*” in Term 3. Thanks so much to Miss Loundon, Mrs Ralston and Mr Bull who came down with us. It was a great experience and well worth it.



Patrick Abraham

P & C Report

Dear parents and carers.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 22 March at 5.00 pm in the library. It is also our AGM and where roles for the year are voted upon. You're not in danger of having to do too much. I can assure you now the roles on our P & C are not at all onerous. It is very different to being at primary school where there always seems to be a lot of fundraising to be done and things to be organized. At high school, the reasons for being on the P & C are different. It is your best way of staying in touch and informed about the education of your children - fairly important undertaking I think.

There are certain jobs to be performed by some members. What is best is to have as many parents as possible coming to meetings and showing an interest in the direction of our school.

If you are unable to attend meetings but would like to know what is going on, you can email thspandc@gmail.com. You will be added to our mailing list and you might like to throw your opinion into the mix. We'd like to see as many people join in as possible.

Please come along, meet the executive staff and show support for our great school. You'll be very welcome.

Regards,

Madeleine Leonard



GTCC Youth Advisory Committee

GTCC Youth Advisory Committee

On 2 March, Lilly Baker, Rebecca Deer, Harry Brown and Andrew Bowman ventured to the council chambers to take part in the first Youth Advisory Committee meeting of 2011.

This committee is made up of groups of students from many of the schools in the area. They meet once every six weeks to discuss issues concerning youth.

We discussed a Youth Week event called ‘Live n’ Loud’ in the skate park, a free concert at the Johnny Martin oval, while the skate park gets re-painted and mural workshops are offered to anyone who goes. Youth Week this year is being held in the first week of holidays, so keep alert for other events happening during the week.

Also it's a great opportunity for people to voice their opinion on local issues, so if there is anything you think needs improving or fixing in the area, come and see any of your Year 10 Reps.



Andrew Bowman



Harry Brown

CANTEEN NEWS

New beef burger now available at the canteen for a delicious \$3.50! Order each morning.

Seniors are welcome to heat up their lunch in the canteen. However, due to OHS issues they must leave the canteen immediately after they use the microwave.

Dana and Sandy



Special Education Swimming Program



Students from the Special Education Faculty have been participating in a



swimming program in Taree High sport sessions at the Manning Aquatic Leisure Centre. We've only had three lessons so far, but already we see the vast improvement in the confidence and skill levels of the participants. Jacob Marchant, Tyson Duckett and Talee Andrews are standout success stars so far. The students have been improving their freestyle, learning backstroke and breaststroke and diving (OOPS, I mean belly flopping). They all attempted the dive, and the life guard knew to stand back.

Congratulations to every student. The lessons may save their lives, or the lives of someone near them in years to come. Thanks to Katherine for her patience and enthusiasm in the lessons.

Diana Silcock

First Premier's Student Volunteering Awards

The *NSW Premier's Student Volunteering Awards* program encourages all students to undertake a minimum of 20 hours of volunteering during the time they are enrolled in **Years 9 and 10**. In appreciation of this contribution to the community, students will receive Premier's Certificates (Bronze, Silver, Gold and Diamond respectively) for completing 20, 40, 60 and 80 hours of volunteering. Students in Year 10 are able to build on the awards they gained in Year 9.

I am in contact with Meals on Wheels and Bishop Tyrell Place in the hope of developing more volunteering activities for students. If any student is interested they should contact Ms Tate in the TAS faculty.

Congratulations to those who have received awards. I hope we will have a productive volunteering year in 2011.



INTERVIEW WITH MRS HILLYER



Mrs Hilleyer is a new teacher who has joined Taree High School staff. She is Head Teacher of the English Faculty and according to her she is loving it. Mrs Hilleyer was nice enough to spare some of her valuable time to answer some questions for us.

Why did you choose to come to Taree High School?

I have been coming here for holidays with my family for the past eight years and fell in love with the area. The other reason is that this school has a really good reputation, especially in relation to the English Department.

What have you been doing for the last 5 years?

I have been lecturing at Sydney University and teaching students who want to pursue a career in teaching, but last year I returned to teaching in a school in south west Sydney.

What's your favourite class at the moment?

Year 10 because I find that the students in this class find things interesting and also because they are up for any challenges that I put forth.

What's one positive about Taree High School?

There are a couple of things I have already found to be positive about the school. These are:

- I have found students to be very willing to have a go at anything
- I have found students to be respectful of each other and the teachers
- A friendly staff
- And a well organised school

What's your funniest teaching experience?

When a boy pretended to be a pigeon and sat on his chair and hooted like a pigeon for the whole lesson.

Thank you to Mrs Hilleyer for answering these questions and also a big welcome to our school on behalf of the students and teachers. We hope that you really enjoy your time with us.



Rebecca Deer.



Taree High's 'Little Shop of Horrors'

Taree High School's Musical class, consisting of talented Year 9 and Year 10 singers, dancers, actors, musicians and designers have been working hard coming up with ideas, auditions and designs

for Taree High School's long awaited musical. The famous Broadway show 'Little Shop of Horrors' will be performed by the students in the Taree High School hall from 11 August 2011.

Would you like to help?

Family and local community members who would like to assist with the production through costume and prop making, set construction, publicity or fundraising are encouraged to contact Melissa Loundon at the school.

Watch this space for future musical updates.

Melissa Loundon
School Musical Coordinator

VACCINATIONS 2011

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 4 April | Yr 7 Girls: HPV 1 st dose of 3
Yr 7 Boys: Diphtheria/Tetanus/
Whooping Cough single dose |
| | Yr 7 All: Chicken Pox |
| 23 May | Yr 10 All: Diphtheria/Tetanus/
Whooping Cough single dose |
| | Yr 7 Girls: Diphtheria/Tetanus/
Whooping Cough single dose |
| 6 June | Yr 7 Girls: HPV 2 nd dose of 3
Yr 7 All: Hepatitis B 1 st dose of 2 |
| 31 October | Yr 7 Girls: HPV 3 rd dose of 3
Yr 7 All: Hepatitis B 2 nd dose of 2 |



90% ATAR for 2010

Congratulations to all the Year 12 students who achieved an ATAR of 90 or above.

Brett Tyrpenou, Sonia Ellem, Jackson White, Eddie Munnings, Dean Lawrie and Junxia Lu

Apologies go to any student who has been omitted. The school is not given the ATAR results so we rely purely on the students and their families informing us.



Early on the morning of 28 February we set off for Sydney (after waiting for Amy Swan who was reported to be walking across Martin Bridge) to view lots of great art.

We went first to the Art Gallery of NSW to see the Terracotta Warriors who were fascinating and we learned new things about Ancient China. Then we saw the Aboriginal exhibition called "Art and Soul." We also visited Art Express which was exquisite, intimidating and inspiring all at the same time.

We then had to negotiate walking to Circular Quay without losing too many students. Some of us were swooped by seagulls, but also enjoyed the didgeridoo player. We got to see the "big boat" called the Chrystal Serenity docked at the Quay. This was amazing. We had time for lunch there before meeting at the MCA to see the Annie Leibovitz photos. These were outstanding and enjoyed by most of the students.

We stopped again at Macca's for dinner and luckily Emily Ball's credit card was still there from breakfast. Everyone looked identical in their school uniforms – except for Mrs Finlayson and Ms de Reuver. The two teachers were kept busy with calls on the way home – always nice to catch up with Chelsea!

This report was a collaborative effort from Ms de Reuvers' art class.



Ancient History Excursion 2011

On 25 February, the Year 11 Ancient History class woke early to be ready to leave Taree High at



4:30 am.

After some stragglers finally arrived we took off, bound for Sydney, led by Mr Davis and Mrs Locker. Most people had a quick nap on the way, some on pillows, some on

unwilling shoulders. After a good run with traffic we arrived at Sydney University early, giving us half an hour to explore the Uni. While we were at the Uni it was 'O' week and many of us were mistaken for first year students, some even getting party invitations.

At 10:00 am our workshop began at the Nicholson Museum at the Uni, so we split into two groups.

Mr Davis' group had a tour of the museum first and Mrs Locker's did the hands-on workshop. Mr Davis' group was lead by a lady who was well, very enthusiastic. After Mr Davis prompted answers to a few of us the tour guide seemed satisfied she had done her job and taught us a lot. She showed us the museum's collection of Egyptian artefacts as well as objects from Rome, Athens, even Sparta.

After an hour the groups swapped activities. The hands-on workshop gave us all an opportunity to handle artefacts from all different civilisations and eras. After an hour downstairs, we all headed off for lunch and to experience some more of 'O' week. Our time in the Nicholson Museum was fun and very informative.

At 2:15 we headed to the Art Gallery of New South Wales to see the Terracotta Warriors. As we entered the exhibition, everyone stopped talking and noticed how intense the atmosphere was. Many stood in awe of the warriors while others were hypnotised by the silent slide-show that was playing. These life size Warriors were buried in the thousands during the Qin dynasty in China in 206 BC. They were only discovered in 1976. For our class to have the opportunity to visit them was a privilege. After visiting the gift shop we all piled back onto the bus to head back to Taree.

While on our trip we:

- saw a girl get her sandwich stolen by an ibis.
- had some misadventures with Hungry Jacks.
- got mistaken for a group of first year exchange students from an unknown country.
- were amazed by ancient artefacts, especially the terracotta warriors.
- had an absolutely amazing day that all of

us will never forget.

Thanks Mr Davis and Mrs Locker!

Isabelle Avent.



Taree High School 2011 Tennis Championship



On 1 March 2011 Taree High School conducted its annual Tennis Championship. The day started with all the competitors, from Year 7 all the way up to Year 12, boarding the bus for the Taree Tennis Centre. We all

arrived eager to play.

The tournament started with everyone being placed into pools and assigned to a court. We were off. There were some very close games and good sportsmanship was shown by all who played in the round robin format. Then whoever came 1st or 2nd in their pool went into in a knockout competition to rank them for the school team.

In the Senior Boys' it was Patrick Abraham and Lee Brown who were in the first semi finals with the winner being Patrick Abraham. The score was 6-2. In the second Senior Boys' semi final it was between Nick Kropf and Tarik Jeffcoat, with Tarik being the winner 6-0.

Then the final was played between Tarik Jeffcoat

and Patrick Abraham. It was an intense game, very competitive and with both showing no mercy. Tarik won 6-3.

It was then the Senior Girls' turn to take to the court with Emily Crook and myself playing a very strenuous game. I ended up winning 6-4. The next to take the court was Ellise Bowerman and Brooke Shaw. Ellise defeated Brooke 6-0. The Senior Girls' final was played between Ellise Bowerman and myself. After a great game, Ellise won 6-3.

Next was the Junior Boys' first semi between Jack Boothman and Harry Woods. The score ended up being 6-0 to Jack, the next two on to the court being Michael Yarnold and Bailey Pitman. The winner was Michael Yarnold 6-4. Then it was the Junior Boys' final between Jack Boothman and Michael Yarnold. This was the longest set of the day with long rallies resulting in Jack Boothman prevailing 7-5.

Finally it was the Junior Girls' turn. This match was a straight final between Sarocha Mason and Natalie Brien. It was another exciting match by both girls. Sarocha ended up winning 6-4.

All in all it was a great day with everyone having fun enjoying the competition and displaying lots of enthusiasm. I would like to congratulate everyone on the way they all played and on their good sportsmanship.

I would like to say a big thank you to Mr Abbott for organizing the championship.



Rebecca Deer - Yr 10

Basketball Report

Thousands of ecstatic sports fans lined the sides of THS stadium as one o'clock came around on Monday afternoon, and the epic basketball showdown was on. The Taree High School tympan, against the Gloucester gorillas. The game began with a painful start, as many errors were forced under the extreme pressure, and Gloucester was off to an early lead, leaving Taree chasing. Steadily clawing it back, it could have been anyone's game by half time, with the home team



tournament.

ahead 22-20. The crowd went crazy with every basket. The atmosphere was intense, and the game got closer and closer with every second. Finally the whistle blew time and it was over. The final score was 36-30 - THS had it. Gloucester, clearly devastated by their loss, left silently, and THS is now off to the next round of the



CONGRATULATIONS

James Kennedy	Regional Lion's Youth of the Year winner 2011
Averil Thornton	Regional Carnival Little Athletics State - 200m running, 400m running, 80m hurdles 80m long jump
Tom Gilbert	State - shot put discus

Angus McLeod

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USED UNIFORMS IN GOOD CONDITION.
GIRLS AND BOYS SHORTS, SKIRTS,
DRESSES, SHIRTS. PLEASE SEND THEM
TO A15 OFFICE.

Crowdy Head Student Environmental Leadership Camp

Last Thursday Pat Abraham, Bec Deer, Harry Brown, Lilly Baker and Zac Collier were driven by Ms Burton and Mrs Armstrong to Crowdy Head Public School for the Environmental Leadership Camp by . It was recess when we arrived and then we played some getting to know you games with the Bellingen Environment Youth Experience people and everyone was getting along really well. At 12 o'clock we learnt about the effects of climate change and brainstormed ideas to make our schools better for the environment. After having fish and chips at lunch time we imagined what our future would be like and discussed things we would like to cherish, revive, forget and invent to make our planet a better place. At 4.30 pm we went to the surf club and played some games and hung out.

At night time we went for a treasure hunt on the beach and had a campfire but it started raining. We stayed up late at the surf club sharing the guitar and singing along.

After breakfast the next morning we had some guest speakers talking to us about what is happening in our local school groups. We listed our qualities that make us good people and worked on some ideas to make our school better.

Finally after lunch we had to say farewell to our new friends and say thank you to the Bellingen EYE and MEEG Leaders. Overall we had a fantastic time and learnt so much about the environment.

Thank you to St Clare's High School, Wingham High School, Camden Haven High School, Bellingen EYE and Manning Environmental Education Group.



Pat Abraham



Lilly Baker



Library News



The library has had a great start to the year with the commencement of new programs and adjustments to layout and routines to accommodate new services:

- commencement of the *Year 7 Library and Information Skills Program*. This program aims to assist our new Year 7 students in their transition from primary school by introducing them to the skills required to successfully utilise library resources and applying these skills to the subjects they are studying. Included in this program is a visit to our local public library
- *Book Club Programs* for Years 10, 11 & 12
- the history collection has been moved to the southern wall of the library and the eastern wall is being organised to accommodate 14 computers. These are expected to be up and operating early Term 2

To support these programs and the many other activities in the library you will find the following information helpful:

The school library is open for individual student use
 Before school, 8.30 am - 9.00 am
 Recess, 11.15 am - 11.35 am
 Lunch 1.35 pm - 1.55 pm (Years 10 - 12)
 1.55 pm - 2.15 pm (All Years)
 5-10 mins after final bell (returns & quick borrowings)
 Closed Wed Recess and Lunch



Acceptable library behaviours and rules are the same as for all other areas in the school ... that is...

- ✓ Be organised and prepared
- ✓ Work cooperatively
- ✓ Follow instructions
- ✓ Show respect for others
- ✓ Control what I say and do
- ✓ Make my best effort
- ✓ Exciting new historical genre available from the library

My Story is a series of historical stories for junior secondary students published by Scholastic. Each book is written in the form of the diary of a fictional young woman or man living during an important event in history. Titles include Thunderbolt, The Rum Rebellion, Princess of Egypt, Don Bradman, Plagues and Federation, Mary Queen of Scots and many others.

The **Graphic Novel** section continues to expand with some great new titles including Anthony Horowitz's *Raven's Gate*. This edgy sinister novel will keep you guessing to the end

Heather Abbott .. Teacher Librarian

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