



# TAREE HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Phone: 02 6552 1166  
Fax: 02 6551 2017

Email: taree-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au  
Web: www.taree-h.schools.nsw.edu.au



Hannah Oreo Vice Captain	Rebecca Deer Captain	Andrew Bowman Captain	Jack Swan Vice Captain
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2013 Student Council Representatives

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As the year races towards the end, it is timely to remind everyone that the school will continue to operate as normal until the 19 December for students and until the 21 December for staff. Staff will be involved in professional development workshops on the last two days of term. Some of these workshops include NAPLAN analysis; mandatory CPR/Emergency Care training; Child Protection; Code of Conduct and of great significance, further cultural awareness training under the guidance of local Biripi people.

One significant change will occur over the next few weeks in the guise of a new security system for the front foyer. This is a response to a number of breaches of security by members of the public, students from other schools and to also curb truancy.

The system includes two automated security doors in the foyer activated by tags issued to all staff and security cameras to monitor movement through the foyer. This will mean a behaviour change for all, significantly for students, especially seniors and minor for parents, who of course are welcome in the school at anytime.

All visitors to the school will come into the foyer area and are expected to present at the front office. Here our friendly staff will tend to their needs. If waiting for a staff member, they will wait in the recently updated foyer. The front office staff will notify the staff member. If requiring access to A15, visitors will be "buzzed through" by the office staff.

Students. All students at Taree High School are expected to be at school each day in time for Roll Call. This is a vital communication period. If students are late to school they should have a note from a parent stating the reason for the lateness.

All of the gates at Taree High including the security doors will be locked at 9:30 am. Entry to the school from that time will be through the front doors. Lateness for school **without a note** will result in a detention slip being issued to the student.

Seniors will be expected to be on site from 9am. If students have Study Periods they will be able to access a Study Zone to complete tasks, access staff for support or work in a passive area. **Year 11** will be able to leave the school grounds on Tuesday at lunchtime only and on other days **only** if they are finished for the day. Year 12 will be able to leave any lunchtime and, if finished for the day, are not required back on the premises. All seniors will leave via the Macquarie Street gates.

Students who need to leave during the day for appointments will report to A15 with their pass and be "buzzed out" through the front door. If they are to return, they will report to the front office to be "buzzed" back to class.

It will take a little time to get used to the system, but for the safety and security of staff and students it is only a minor adjustment for all to make.

Allison Alliston  
Relieving Principal



## DEPUTY'S REPORT

How this year has flown. Year 12 courses had barely begun it seemed and now the Higher School Certificate is all over. Year 12 students (2012) are to be commended for their excellent school spirit, their achievement in completing their schooling, their academic and sporting achievements and for generally being a great bunch of young people. They have brought credit to the school, their parents and most importantly to themselves. Good luck with your HSC results and in the future, Year 12!

Now Year 8..... I have been able to get to know Year 8 this year and I have seen them becoming school leaders through the SRC- a fine group of representatives. Some students are developing their creative skills while others are rising as academic stars. Some are the sports people of the future.... There are some students who have not yet decided what positive contributions they can make at Taree High School so I look forward to seeing how they rise to the occasion and really participate positively in school life next year. Remember that it is essential that you attend all your lessons, have all the equipment that you need to work at your best and to try your hardest. Then you will have success.

Year 7, 2013..... Mr Harper and I have been getting to

know this group of students firstly through visits to the primary schools during Term 3. A special group who have been transitioning into school have been involved in making a short film about coming to high school. This project has been a fantastic opportunity to show students what high school is like and to help students who may have been concerned about making the change from primary school to high school. Well done to all those involved! All incoming Year 7 students will have the opportunity to come to Taree High School for an orientation day on Wednesday, 12 December and parents and carers are invited to an information night on Tuesday, 11 December.

So as 2012 is rapidly drawing to a close, I would like to take the opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and enjoyable holiday.

P.S. School begins on **Tuesday 29 January** for staff (Staff Development Day 1)

**Years 7, 11 and 12 return Wednesday 30 January.**

**Years 8, 9 and 10 return Thursday, 31 January.**

**Ms C Gray**  
**Relieving Deputy Principal**  
**(Yr 8 & 12)**



## DEPUTY'S REPORT

Taree High has been very busy of late!

### Year 11

\*These students have just been given information about what Taree High School demands from our seniors. We want them to set the parameters with regard to doing their best in class and being positive role models for our younger students.

\*Year 11 students have just finished their Preliminary examinations. Reports are with students as I write this. I do hope that all students will analyse their reports and reflect on their achievements as well as work on some of their short comings.

\*At times young adolescents do make mistakes because of peer pressure or bad decision making. Over the upcoming festive period, I hope that our young men and women of Year 11 make great decisions about themselves and their safety.

\*Year 11 will be reminded often about the arrangements with regard to entering and leaving the school. The expectation is that all Year 11 students will be at school by 9:00 each morning, even if they do not start classes until 10:15. Students will not be allowed to leave the school during their study periods unless it is Period 5.

### Year 9

\*Year 9 have finished the majority of their commitments with regard to assessments.

\*Year 9 are reminded about their curriculum pattern for Year

10. This is a big challenge with the choice of subjects and patterns being crucial. "Will I experience TAFE courses next year? Can I do work experience? Have I seen Mr Bowman?" This school is superb with its flexibility and course offerings. I encourage all students to use this flexibility.

### Year 7

\*Year 7 is to be commended for its involvement in all activities throughout the school year. Lots of students have been on task with regard to learning, becoming engaged with their studies and producing quality work. Subject and elective choices for next year is now important. Elective forms have been submitted. Now is the time to discuss any problems with myself or your year advisor Mr Kelly.

\*I take this opportunity to ask all of Year 7 to help the incoming Year 6 as they proceed through an orientation process. I am sure that you can help them with any problems that they have in their orientation to Taree High School. Show them where rooms are and help them with their timetables.

I hope that you have a terrific holiday break and a rewarding festive season.

**Michael Crotty**  
**Deputy Principal (Yrs 7, 9, 11)**



## DEPUTY'S REPORT

As 2012 draws to an end it is time for Year 10 to begin to plan for their Year 10 Social. This is an opportunity for all students to celebrate the time they have spent at Taree High School as one cohesive group. This is not a time for large expense: hire cars, long formal dresses and other items of this nature should be reserved for two years time when they will finish their education at Taree High School.

It is also timely to remind both students and parents that attendance at the Year 10 social is a privilege and not a certainty. Students who have been uncooperative in their behaviour, have been involved in incidents which may see them on monitoring cards (whether red Level cards, orange Behaviour Support cards, green Faculty Monitoring cards or blue Attendance Monitoring cards) may not be allowed to participate in the social.

It is also a requirement for student attendance at this event that all elective subject fees have been paid up-to-date for the time a student has attended Taree High School. For some students this is a fairly large amount. Families who are unable to clear their outstanding elective fees may contact the school to discuss a payment plan for this however a significant amount of this will need to be cleared before the social.

I look forward to a fun night of food and dancing to celebrate the end of life as a junior student at Taree High School.



**Mrs Raylene Starke**  
Deputy Principal (Yr 10)

## Dates to Remember

20/11/12	P & C Meeting
23/11/12	Out of Uniform Day
26-29/11/12	CHS Boys Water Polo
30/11/12	MADD concert, U15's Netball
12/12/12	Beach Day, Year 6 Orientation
13/12/12	Year 10 Social
17/12/12	Presentation for Yrs 7,8,9,10 & 11 Captains' Induction
19/12/12	End of Term 4 for students
20-21/12/12	Staff Development
29/1/13	Staff return to school (SDD 1)
30/1/13	Year 7, 11 and 12 return to school
31/1/13	Years 8, 9 and 10 return to school

## CAPTAINS' REPORT

Hi Everyone.

How's it feel to already to be in the last few weeks of school for the year. As your newly elected Captains. Hannah, Jack, Bec and myself, we are all excited to be taking on such an important and prestigious role, which over the coming year we will strive to perform to ensure the continued success and growth of Taree High. Building on the achievements of last years leaders, Sam, Maddie, Alex and Edward will be no easy task and I'd like to take the time now to thank and congratulate them for all the hard work and effort they placed into their roles. I'd also like to wish them, and whole of the outgoing Year 12, the best of luck in whatever their futures may hold.

While still only in our first few weeks, the role of the new SRC has

already begun to reach full pace, with many of the year's activities, such as Beach Day, Spirit Day, the socials and the first on many fundraising events, already being organized. I'm excited to have the opportunity to work with such a dedicated and capable bunch of people that is the new SRC, and I'm confident that together we can produce a fresh and new approach to the school. Also keep your ears open for upcoming news on an inter-school sports cup, more to be revealed soon.

That's about it for now, so on behalf of Bec, Jack, Hannah and myself, we hope you all enjoy the last few weeks of school and have a great Christmas holidays. We look forward to the challenges and prospects that await us over the coming year.

**Andrew Bowman - Captain**

### MADD ABOUT YOU

**2012**

**TICKET PRICES**

<b>ADULTS</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
<b>PENSION</b>	<b>\$12.00</b>
<b>STUDENT/CHILD</b>	<b>\$12.00</b>

**FRIDAY 30 NOVEMBER  
7.30 PM**

**MANNING ENTERTAINMENT  
CENTRE**

**TICKETS ON SALE FRIDAY 16  
NOVEMBER**

**AVAILABLE ON THE WEB AT  
WWW.GTCC.NSW.GOV/MEC,  
OR FROM VIDEO EZY IN  
VICTORIA STREET  
(65525699), OR AT THE DOOR  
UNLESS SOLD OUT**

## SRC SECRETARY'S REPORT

Hello!

While it is the end of the school year, it is the beginning of our new SRC!

Our meetings have been scheduled for every Wednesday at 8:30am. During our meetings we discuss a range of different issues that are happening throughout all years here at Taree High. If you have any ideas, suggestions or issues please let one of your SRC reps know and they will bring it up in one of our meetings.

At the moment, everyone on the SRC is sorting out which committees they are in and what they aim to do in their committees. Some very exciting news is that thanks to our Environment Committee, the SRC and Taree High are going to be sponsoring an orphaned orang-utan! Our very cute little primate is named

Chocolate! We will be having a number of cake stalls and fundraisers over the next year to help raise money for Chocolate.

Our next social will be held in Term One of next year which is exciting, so if you have any ideas for a theme, let your year rep know so that hopefully we will have a theme that you guys like.

Congratulations to all of the Year 12 students who survived the HSC and good luck in your future endeavours!

### *Year 12 Formal*



**Madeline Heron**

## YEAR 11 REPORT

Hi Year 11

We know it's nearly the end of the year but keep your heads down and keep going with school work. Hope you're thinking of names for your Year 12 jackets, if not, then get thinking.

Unfortunately we are the first year to experience the new rights and responsibilities to the school but

we're strong and we'll manage. We look forward to a good year next year – our final year!



**Hannah Oreo Megan Wamsley**

### UNIFORM DRIVE

The P & C is running a drive to collect pre-loved uniforms. If you have any that are no longer needed please send them with your child to place in the box provided at A15



### **“Chocolate” Adopted By Taree High School.**



Recently the Environment Committee of our SRC put forward a proposal to help the Earth's endangered species by adopting an orphaned baby orang-utan called “Chocolate.” We will be raising money to send to him in Sumatra through various “Chocolate for Chocolate” stalls in the future.

“Chocolate was confiscated from villagers in Southwest Aceh. He was very thin, with dry skin and dull, wiry hair. By chance, his confiscation coincided with the presence of a film crew from NBC in the USA, and Paul Hilton, a well known photographer based in Hong Kong, so the whole process was well documented. Both were in the area covering a spate of recent fires in the nearby Tripa peat swamp forests, from where Chocolate without doubt originates. He was named Chocolate, as someone stopped at a roadside store to buy some chocolate, and was then informed during discussions with locals about an orang-utan for sale, hence the name... Chocolate has now been introduced to another young infant male orang-utan, named ‘Pandu’, from Kutacane in South East Aceh. At first Chocolate seemed not so interested in ‘Pandu’, and ‘Pandu’ seemed a little afraid of his new room-mate. But after a month they seemed much happier and are now often seen playing together.”

For more information go to <http://www.orangutan.org.au/orphan-updates>

## YEAR 10 REPORT

Hey guys,

The year is going well. Between now and the end of Year Ten there are several important events for us. Our final exams for the year have begun and the Year 10 social is set to occur on the 13<sup>th</sup> December. Several people from our year recently came back from a futsal

tour of the UK.

Congratulations to them for their selection.



**Alexander Eden**



*Year 12 Formal*

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## YEAR 9 REPORT-CAMP SPECIAL

Hello ladies and gentlemen,

We hope everybody who joined us on the Year 9 Camp to the Gold Coast last week enjoyed it as much as we did! We are now all professional surfers and most of us have conquered the Giant Drop. We have returned very tanned, or in some cases severely burnt-our slip, slop and slapping just wasn't

up to scratch. Overall it was an amazing camp. Thanks to Mr Foxwell, Ms Burton, Mrs Cotton and Mr Harper and all of you guys who came on the camp.

Hope you all have a splendid time when the summer holidays hit home and feel cheery and well:) Get excited for Year 10! We hope everybody gets the electives they

most deeply desire and have a rockin' time until the end of Year 9.



**Eve Foxwell**



**Lily Minihan**

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## YEAR 8 REPORT

Hasn't the year gone quickly? It feels like yesterday we started scary Year 8. All the big kids aren't so big compared to us now, or as scary. Although we have had our ups and downs, this year has been a very productive one.

I know I'm speaking for everyone when I say we are keen for a holiday and to putting all these

tests and assignments behind us!

Have a great holiday and prepare to knuckle down next year.



**Lucas Mepham**

**R U OK? Day** was held on the 12 of September last term to raise awareness and provide support for people living with depression, especially male teenagers. On R U OK? Day people are encouraged to ask friends, family and people around them "R U OK?" The main point of the day is that it's ok to say you're not ok. The school held a cake stall, out of uniform day and sold merchandise to support this cause. Overall we raised \$704.60.

**Tom Fletcher & Nicholas Quinn**

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## YEAR 7 REPORT

We are happy to say Year 7 have almost finished the first year of high school and it has been exciting.

### Camp

First of all our camp had to be the most exciting thing about our first year. In the hot weather we were all together having fun playing around in the mud and dirt and flies. One of the highlights was

seeing Mr Kelly beat Mr Harper in a planking competition on one of our game nights-but let's not forget Mrs Moody on the giant swing.

### Sports

In Year 7 we have some boys in the water polo team, Harry McLean, Tahj Wood, Harry Race, Jeremy Murphy, Brock Van Kampan and Callum Weasley who

have just recently played a game and came home with the win. We also had some representatives head to Newcastle for athletics and swimming.



**Kirby Border**



**Lucy Bird**

**A SAFE AND FRIENDLY LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

## Yr 7 Year Advisor's Report



What a wonderful group has arrived at Taree High School in

2012 to start their secondary schooling! It is a massive change from primary school days (especially for those students who came from smaller schools). Congratulations to all for settling in well to high school and for now being able to confidently navigate your way around the school. This learning process was made easier by having a turn of being the office courier (with some students having multiple turns at this job)! Your efforts in helping the office staff and delivering messages was very much appreciated.

You have all now had the opportunity of experiencing a taste

of all the subjects on offer in the junior school with students now being able to select electives for Year 8 in 2013. Your choices of these subjects should give you a better indication of what you perform best at or have a major interest in exploring further.

A big congratulations should go to all the Year 7 students who have been selected for the SRC in 2013 (and for those who nominated) as I'm sure they will represent our year group well next year.

Well done to each and every student who has represented Year 7 and Taree High in any sporting event throughout the year (including at the Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals). You should be proud of your efforts.

One final mention (with photos to follow) includes the Year 7 camp at Morisset Active Education Centre in September! What a great

camp and very enjoyable time for everyone with many interesting and fun activities experienced. All Year 7 campers did a fantastic job of showing Taree High School in a good light and being courteous, thoughtful people (except forgetting to take all their belongings from their cabin verandahs)! I hope friendships were strengthened and new friendships developed and that you will remember the camp for a long time!

Year 7 please aim to be safe, respectful learners at all times. Strive to do your best and be friendly, nice and helpful individuals to teachers, staff and others in our Year 7 cohort and also the rest of the school body. This will help ensure a happy and productive time at high school.

**By Mr Kelly**

# Year 7 Camp



***A SAFE AND FRIENDLY LEARNING ENVIRONMENT***

# SRC Orientation Day

On Tuesday 9th October, the SRC ventured to the Uniting Church for our day of preparation and team building for the SRC year ahead. Team building activities and leadership skills were run by our newly elected Captains.

Ms Alliston also ran leadership activities such as lessons we can take from geese. Madeline Heron ran a session which consisted of things which she learnt from the State SRC Conference she attended in 2012.

A banquet was prepared, with ridiculously delicious food, including Mrs Fatherley's famous dip.

We planned what we wanted to achieve for the year in our Annual General Meeting. We elected a

new secretary, Madeline Heron and decided which charities we would raise money for next year.

Overall it was a very productive day and a big thanks must go to Ms, Walker, Miss Gurr and Ms Burton for making this a great day.



**Patrick Abraham**



**Abbey Stephen-Nelson**



## JEWISH MUSEUM

On 17th October, Year 11 Advanced English and several Year 8 students travelled down to the Jewish Museum in Sydney for what would be a culturally diverse and perspective-changing excursion. The point of the excursion was to have a better understanding of Judaism, which will help Year 11 with their study of "The Fiftieth Gate" and Year 8 with their novel unit.

The day started with a heart wrenching recount of World War 2 from a holocaust survivor. This set the tone for an emotional and educational day. With not many Taree High students knowing much about different cultures, the day proved to be successful in expanding our knowledge of the Judaism which will help in our studies. Thank you to Mrs Hall and Mrs Hillyer who took us down. The excursion as a whole broadened our understanding and perspective of this old religion

## Year 10 Advisor's Report

At the present time of writing we have our futsal players from Year 10, Holly Pole-Cini, Nathan Somerville and Sarah Soars in the UK, playing their hardest.

Our fabulous musicians are selling their CDs so get in fast to get one of these!

Our Agricultural students are building a name for themselves as they work with the community to gain support to get the fantastic trailer used to travel to show their livestock. Congratulations to Year 10 students Madison Brenton, Telisha Ford, Georgia Anderson and Lisa Gillogly for their involvement in this worthwhile project. Many thanks must go to canteen manager Dana Jowett, Farm Assistant, Mick Callinan, sponsors Taree and Wingham Produce, Timbertown Pies,

Saxby's Soft Drinks and Streets Ice Creams for fundraising.

Remember the Year 10 Social is on

13 December at the Rowing Club. A photographer will be there doing both individual and group photos. \$15 for the ticket will get you security, snacks, drinks, photography music, fun and a great time with your friends.

School fees for subjects that students have chosen need to be up-to-date before the social. The social will end at 10 pm when parents/carers will take students home. The next day is a school day for Year 10.

Now for something very important: Record of School Achievement. To qualify for ROSA you must:

- \*Attend school!!!
- \*Undertake and complete courses of study that satisfy Board of Studies Curriculum and assessment requirements
- \*Comply with other regulations (such as attendance)
- \*Apply yourselves with diligence and sustained effort to the set tasks and experiences provided in the course by the school

\*Achieve all of the course outcomes. Some students are placing themselves at risk of receiving an "N" (non-completion of course) determination by not completing assessments and tasks unfortunately.

To finish with some more great news I must thank Mrs Phillips' for the challenge between Special Education and her worthy Year 10opponents to play basketball. Mrs Phillips did some great refereeing. For Jack Shelton, his goal of attending "Mainstream" was fulfilled!

Congratulations and thank you to the Year 10 students and their teacher. This has been a big year Year 10 and much success has come out of 2012.



**Mrs Silcock**

## Skills Transition Workshop Club Taree

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2012**

As part of an initiative “Learning for Life” designed by the Smith Family to support students to make successful transitions to the workforce, twenty-four students from Year 11 were invited to the Skills for Transition Workshops .

The Smith Family and “Learning for Life” Programs have a long association with Taree High School, with the successful “iTrack” online mentoring program being run in the school for the last 3 years. “iTrack” is classroom based and sees students correspond online over an 18-week period with mentors working in a corporate setting. It was pleasing to see iTrack students participate so enthusiastically during the Skills for Transition Workshop.

“Learning for Life” also supports the delivery of Certificate I in Financial Literacy to our Year 9 and 10

Commerce class.

The students who participated in the Skills Transition Workshop were drawn predominantly from the Year 11 English Studies course and selected for their desire to stay in the local area to seek employment, whether that be apprenticeships, traineeships or just joining the local workforce.

The workshops emphasised “soft skills” that students need to develop to put them at advantage when they are applying for employment. These include:

- “What do I stand for?” (Values, Opinions, Feelings, Personality, Interests and Talents)
- “I am great at so many things”. Looking at how students already have many skills and attributes that make them unique and valuable to the community.
- Communication and etiquette in social settings.
- Manners
- Job Readiness
- Mock interview
- Personal Grooming

The highlight of the workshops was the “formal” lunch, where students enjoyed a two course lunch and to practise their newly acquired skills on local business and community members.

Students engaged with members of the Taree Business Chamber, Greater Taree City Council, ANZ Bank and the Manning Entertainment Centre.

As a complimentary activity for the Year 11 students there was a follow up attendance at the Taree Jobs Expo on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November. The Expo aims to help students use their skills and confidence to apply for suitable advertised positions or seek out valuable networks and stakeholders to assist with the student’s individual career planning.

Taree High School wishes to acknowledge the valuable assistance of “Learning for Life” worker and “iTracks” Co-ordinator Heidi Prowse for her efforts in making the Skills for Transition Workshops a reality.

**Mr Bowman**

## GRIP Leadership Day

We Captains went to the GRIP Leadership Day in Newcastle, accompanied by Miss Gurr. The day was full of different events where we learnt to become better leaders and how to build on our skills and work with our schools and SRC to gain the full potential of the group. There were many other schools that attended and around about three hundred plus kids and teachers all together. We all believed the day was very successful and entertaining. Some of the things that we learnt included how to resolve conflict among students at school and any conflict in general. We also learnt how to plan a successful event which we thought was very helpful as this is one of our goals this year to plan more successful socials.

We would also like to plan a sports gala day, much like our already running Spirit Cup day, but between other schools as well. The GRIP stands for Growth, Relationships, Integrity and People. Growth being the responsibility to develop that which has been given to us. Relationship is the full experience of life through interaction with others. Integrity is having a commitment to truth and honesty and People should be the focus of every leader. We expanded on these four points and learnt how to use them all to become stronger leaders who have a focus on the important issues.



**Hannah Oreo**

## **Ritchies Community Benefit Program**



*Taree High School P & C is now registered as a beneficiary of Ritchies Community Benefit Program. When shopping at Richies IGA store in Manning Street you can nominate your school as a beneficiary of a donation from Ritchies when they apply or their free Community Benefit card at the store. Using the card also gives you access to cheaper prices on hundreds of CB specials every week.*



# **OUTDOOR** **EDUCATION CAMP**

At the end of Term 3 (13 and 14 September) the 9/10 Outdoor Education classes embarked on a two day camp at Crowdy Bay National Park. The group comprised of seventeen students, Mr Abbott and Miss Godfrey. After packing all the equipment in the bus, the group left Taree High on Thursday morning and travelled through Laurieton to the Diamond Head camp ground. Setting up camp proved a challenge for some but we all managed to get our tents and shelters up before lunch.

Surfing was next on the agenda with the Diamond Head Surf School. With the cool water in mind, all of the group donned

wetsuits and selected a board. Although the choppy conditions made it difficult, it still proved a lot of fun and most managed to find their feet a number of times. Molly Bridger had some immediate success and, unlike many of the others, seemed to find it easy. Persistence paid off for Teyan Blears and Cody Hodges and those that stuck at it, while others found it a little easier on the sand.

The group then had a bit of time around the camp ground with some opting for a game of cricket on the beach, while the others just relaxed around the camp site. A camp fire was made in order to cook dinner and later became the focal point as the light faded. Luckily the rain held off before everyone retreated to their tents.

With the sun shining the next morning and a nice warm fire

lit, the group steadily made some breakfast either on the Trangia stoves or on the coals of the fire. There were some attempts to make pancakes but I'm not sure if they looked as good as they tasted. The bushwalk around to Kylie's Hut up and over the headland showed some nice views across the Pacific, but the views of the cliffs definitely weren't for everyone.

Once back at camp the mission was very simple: cook some lunch, pack up camp and pack the trailer. The cooperativeness, team work and camaraderie shown amongst the group was fantastic to see. Well done campers!



**Mr Abbott**



# Year 11 Snow Camp

What is described as a pinnacle of high school life, the Year 11 snow trip for 2012 was no let down. An epic event which supersedes any camp or excursion which has happened before, the snow trip is one to be remembered. In week 5 term 3, a large, fortunate group of year 11 students travelled down to Jindabyne for what some will consider the best week of their lives. After bracing the early hours of the morning and surviving a 10 hour road trip with lead foot Davis, we arrived in Jindy (with many picking up the local lingo.) A quick stop for supplies, and coffee at Jindy (Gloria) Jeans, it was back to our 'resort' in preparation for the morning that awaited us. Many Taree students hadn't seen or touched snow, so it was fair to say that they were anticipated for the coming week. And after a sleepless night, it was snow time. A 45 minute journey up the mountain, we headed for Perisher, for what would be our stomping ground and source of excitement, fun and for some pain for the rest of the week. Lessons at the start of the day, each day, were essential, particularly for those who thought they were the next Torah Bright, and knew everything there was to know about skiing or snowboarding. Amazing

conditions for weeks before gave all the snow fields a solid base, which we were told, they would be lucky to get once in every 7 years. And later on in the week snow fell all throughout the day making the snow "So powdery man." Despite all the fun which was had on the slopes, we should acknowledge those who through no fault of their own, injured themselves to a point of no return (some of the worst Taree High has ever had). The week on the slopes, provided us with many stories and memories which will stay present for a long time; Megan flying down 'Rollercoaster' like a pro and eating three litres of snow; Miss Gurrs' unthinkable rookie mistake, which isn't to be mentioned in great detail; and Casey getting lost for half an hour and everyone thinking she was just joking and laughing are just some of the hilarious stories to come out of the great week that was the year 11 snow trip. Huge thanks have to go to Mr Bevan, Pickard and Davis, Miss Gurr and Mrs Phillips, who not only put up with all of our shenanigans, but had as much fun as all of the students. Our snow trip will always be remembered as one of the greatest events of our Taree High lives, and no one can put a price on the fun, laughter and enjoyment we all shared on this incredible snow trip.

**Patrick Abraham**



## SchoolBiz

The Australian government has announced that the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine will be provided free to male students in high schools from 2013.

In New South Wales, the HPV vaccine will be offered to boys in Year 7 and Year 9 in 2013 and 2014 and then annually in Year 7 only from 2015 onwards. The HPV immunisation will continue to be offered annually to female students in Year 7 only.

**Marilyn Crozier**  
Head Teacher Welfare

***A SAFE AND FRIENDLY LEARNING ENVIRONMENT***

## Australian Childrens' Musical Foundation

The Australian Children's Musical Foundation comes on board with the Taree High Support Unit 2012. An exciting development during 2012 is the involvement Taree High has with the ACMF. Musical tuition for the Support Unit and the foundation's involvement with a number of Koori students has been very beneficial and enjoyable every Friday. Students have been learning percussion and group dynamics with percussion as well as doing physical activity at Valley Industries (an organisation servicing adults with special needs). Michael Eyb has been a most enthusiastic teacher and he has led the group in a concert at Valley Industries which was very successful. This concert was recorded on YouTube <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XQg>

-XPOjIDg.

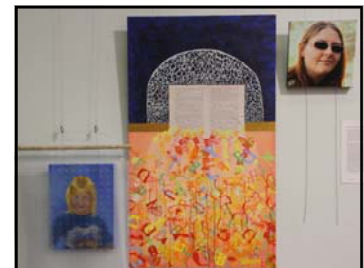
The exposure to society and involvement with the wider community has been particularly beneficial to the students in the Support Unit. Students have gained in self confidence and they have developed teamwork skills as a result of this program. Two students from the Support Unit have gained enough confidence from the program to enable them to participate quite successfully in the mainstream music classes at Taree High.

The Support Unit students have walked the 1.5 kilometres from school to the venue and back each Friday and they have improved their attendance as a result of this program. Music is a common denominator that all students enjoy participating in and, through the enthusiasm of their instructor Michael Eyb, students have developed their own rap songs

detailing important aspects of their lives.

A continuing association with this program and the financial support required to conduct the program is a priority for the Support Unit.

### YEAR 12 MAJOR ART WORKS



### Do you know a student that has what it takes to be World Vision's 2013 Youth Ambassador?

Who can become a Youth Ambassador?

Anyone who:

- Has raised \$200 or more for 40 Hour Famine 2012
- Is 15-20 years old in 2013
- Is available for various speaking engagements in your home state throughout 2013
- Is genuinely interested in issues of global poverty and injustice and want to see the world change
- Is respectful of cultural diversity and enjoy experiencing new things
- Enjoys public speaking and could jump up in front of a big school assembly to speak without freaking out!

Every year, World Vision accepts applications from 40 Hour Famine participants to be our Youth Ambassadors for the following year. It's an amazing experience and the chance of a lifetime, allowing you to not only develop yourself, but strongly impact those around you; moving others to take action and make a positive change in the world.

What does a World Vision Youth Ambassador do?

- Travel overseas on a World Vision Study Tour in January 2013 to meet children and families who live in poverty and witness their daily struggles firsthand.
- Develop and share an understanding of the importance and impact of aid in areas of food security and sustainable development.
- Come back to Australia and share the stories of the people you met by speaking at schools, events and with other young people in the community.

How to become World Vision Youth Ambassador?

- Submit a creative written application to the World Vision Youth Team at [http://www.worldvision.com.au/40hourfamine/Community/youth\\_ambassador.aspx](http://www.worldvision.com.au/40hourfamine/Community/youth_ambassador.aspx) by September 30th.
- Attend a series of interviews, group sessions and public speaking showcasing your capability, passion and personality.

If you think you know a student that has what it takes to be a World Vision Youth Ambassador in 2013 contact Ari Mason for more information on [arianna.mason@worldvision.com.au](mailto:arianna.mason@worldvision.com.au) or 9806-6363.

## NSW Junior State Wind Band

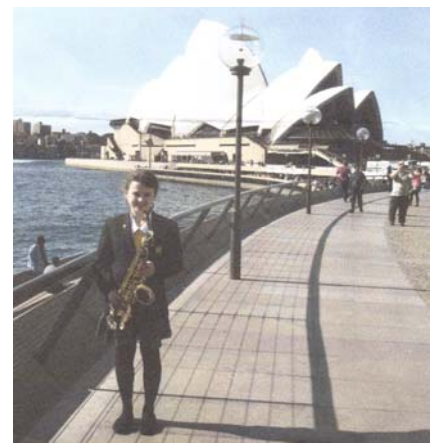
On Monday 27 and Tuesday 28 August I was practicing my saxophone at the Arts Unit in Lewisham, Sydney with the NSW Junior State Wind Band. This band is a group of 50 musicians selected every year from schools across the whole of NSW. The Junior Band includes pupils from Years 5 to 8. There is also a Senior Band that goes from Year 9 to 12.

Following these two days of intensive rehearsing, on the 29 and 30, the band took part in the Jacaranda and Mimosa concerts (a festival of instrumental music) in the Sydney Opera House.

I feel very honoured and proud to have played my saxophone in the

Opera House and to have been part of a State Band. It was an awesome experience that I am never going to forget.

By Becky Wright



# CONGRATULATIONS

Harley Hunt (Yr 10, Holly Pole-Cini (Yr 10), Sophie Ryan (Yr 10), Jessica Nelson (Yr 10), Jessica Nelson (Yr 10), Keira Sherwood (Yr 11), Emma Schmitzer (Yr 11), Kealie Bingham (Yr 11), Nicole Callinan (Yr 11)	Certificate of Appreciation for assisting as a reader/scribe during the lead up to and/or for the Trial and Higher School Certificate 2012.
Ben Saunders	Greater Taree City Council Manning Indigenous Community Awards—Indigenous Employee of the Year Award
Becky Wright	NSW Junior State Wind Band
Jake Davey	Old Bar Idol Winner
Eden Gonfond	Shortlisted for a Bell Shakespeare Scholarship
Andrew Bowman, Rebecca Deer	School Captains for 2013
Hannah Oreo Jack Swan	Vice Captains for 2013
Madeline Heron	SRC Secretary for 2013
Banjo Hunt Eden Gonfond Ms Sullivan and Mrs Cotton SRC 2012/ 2013 Nathan Somerville, Rebecca Deer, Holy Pole-Cini .	Acted in 'The Bike' a short film for Tropfest. Starred in the play 'A Tomb with a View' Congratulations to all new members Travelled to the UK to represent Australia in futsal

## S R C 2012-2013

<b>SCHOOL CAPTAINS</b>	
Andrew BOWMAN	Rebecca DEER
<b>VICE CAPTAINS</b>	
Hannah OREO	Jack SWAN
<b>YEAR 11-12 REPRESENTATIVES</b>	
Mackenzie BARBER	Patrick ABRAHAM
Ben FERGUSON	Harrison BROWN
Alice GREEN	Megan WAMSLEY
<b>YEAR 10-11 REPRESENTATIVES</b>	
Madeline HERON	Jake DAVEY
Amari JENSEN-BENTLEY	Alex EDEN
Caitlin McLEOD	Eden GONFOND
Holly POLE-CINI	Rebecca TURRA
Joey JEFFREY	Nathan SOMERVILLE
<b>YEAR 9-10 REPRESENTATIVES</b>	
Ella BLYTH	Thomas FLETCHER
Claire DAVIES	Nicholas QUINN
Eve FOXWELL	Nicholas STARR
Lily MINIHAN	Miles THORNTON
<b>YEAR 8-9 REPRESENTATIVES</b>	
Gabbie AARONS-BURTON	Noah KIRCHER
Lucy BIRD	Max Le MESSURIER
Abbey STEPHEN-NELSON	Lucas MEPHAM
<b>YEAR 7-8 REPRESENTATIVES</b>	
Kirby BORDER	Mat CROKER
Siena HINDMARSH	Banjo HUNT
<b>KOORI REPRESENTATIVES</b>	
Aiden ANDERSON	Kyeesha CLARKE
Jameela COCHRANE	
<b>S.U. REPRESENTATIVE</b>	
Sophie POWICK	
<b>SRC COORDINATOR</b>	
Melanie WALKER	
<b>Assistant SRC COORDINATOR</b>	
Kimberley GURR	

## TAREE HIGH

### FUTSAL REPORT

Hey everyone, as you may already be aware, the Taree High School Year 8 Futsal team has been selected to attend the Australasian Champion of Champions competition in Runaway Bay on the Gold Coast. The competition will be held on the 23 to the 25 November. We will be competing against many other teams from around the country. The team has been training frequently for the last couple of weeks, and we are all working hard to get fit for the games. The team is very excited and we are looking forward to the trip up there as much as the games we will play. The team consists of Lachlan Nesbitt, Sean Pole-Cini, Callum Bartley, Mitchell Brown, Isaac Worboys, Kyle Extrem, Lucas Mephram and myself. We are all currently running around selling raffle tickets to reduce the cost of the trip. We also had a pizza night, where we sold slices of woodfired pizza last Wednesday night at Saxby's Stadium. We raised \$420.

**Max Le Messurier**

## 15YRS CHS Basketball Knockout

During Term 3 the Boys and Girls 15yrs Basketball teams competed in the CHS Knockout. The girls' team consisted of Sarah Croker, Jessica Bergantin, Stephanie Bergantin, Sarah Smith, Georgia McCarthy, Kyla Handley, Imogen Laws, Lucy McKillop-Davies, Nimaya Wemthasinghe, Nimasha Wemthasinghe, Latasha White and Zoe Williams. They travelled to Salamander Bay to play Tomaree High School. Sarah Croker got the team off to a good start with some good defence and skilful drives to the basket. Sarah Smith kept the momentum going with some strong rebounding and shot making and with a solid team effort, the girls were victorious.



The Boys squad comprised of John Baker, James Corben, Brock Kinnear, Brandon Betts, Jack Paine, Jared Thompson, Zac Calvin, Jacob Straub, Nathan Smith and Jordan Nowlan and their first opponents were Great Lakes College at Tuncurry. After getting off to a slow start, the team settled into the game and gradually took control to take an

impressive victory. Next up was a home game against Singleton

High School. The boys got off to a great start and took an early lead and never looked back.

Both Boys and Girls teams then had to travel to Maitland for the Hunter finals. The girls played Mt View High School first and found the going tough against the well drilled team. The defensive pressure from the opponents wore down the girls and they eventually went down with a well-spirited effort. The boys played Hunter Sports High and began the game with confidence. The boys played strongly and kept pace with their opponents with a good team effort and contributions from the whole squad. Eventually the speed and defensive pressure from Hunter Sports got the better of them. Although they were knocked out of the competition, the boys then played Mt View High School. Once again the boys played with great sportsmanship and team work and scored a comprehensive victory to end the day on a high.

Congratulations to both teams on their achievements this year. Thanks to Troy Knutson, Nick Croker and Chris Small for assisting with the games and also to the many parents that assisted with transport and support throughout the competition.



## Library News



Great news ... towards the end of November we are having additional purpose built computer furniture installed in the library. This much awaited upgrade will provide appropriate and comfortable workspaces for students.

Take a look at this terms *Latest Releases*, with particular emphasis on titles that would make great reading over the summer.



Students are welcome to come to the library towards the end of term say in the last couple of weeks and borrow resources to enjoy over the summer holidays. The *Latest Releases* pamphlet is available from A15, front office and the library

*More great summer reads ...*

Book 1 of the **Ragnor Trilogy** brings to life an exciting fantasy kingdom where we meet Irina the Wolf Queen, a heroine both brave and beautiful – with the cunning and daring of an animal and the wit and intelligence of a human.



**Hammering Iron** tells of a world ruled by Lords and Kings, the lives of commoners are cheap and short. Two brothers, Niko & Paramon, warrior & clerk are forced apart. One brother will discover a secret that changes everything, a secret that men will not hesitate to kill for ...

Author Ben Chandler takes us on a thrilling ride aboard a stolen airship on a quest to save the world. Great reading in the fantasy genre.

**City** is a striking collection of short connected stories that reflect our lives and those of the people we pass each day.

Lets all keep reading

Heather Abbott ..

Teacher Librarian



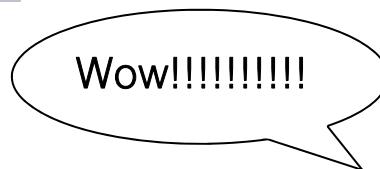
**National  
Year of  
Reading  
2012**

# Year 9 Goldcoast Trip: The Worlds

At first, I just looked forward to nice weather, good company and the opportunity to create some worthwhile memories. I certainly wasn't disappointed and I was amazed at how quickly the great times began. Even after the first day many were calling this the best trip ever and it just kept getting better. Every day brought with it new highlights and firsts for those on camp. For me the surfing was a first and produced lots of smiles and memorable moments. The peer activities at the centre were fun too and challenging, we had lots of special moments. Of course the rides at the worlds showed me a side to some kids that I hadn't seen before, as well as unforgettable screams. There were many interesting times in the cabins too, not just some unique smells but also the dynamics of teenagers sharing their space. This always brings out the best and worst in people. There were so many favourite things I find it hard to list them all.

I have always been a little skeptical about the value of these types of excursions and the amount of effort that goes into organising them. However, after seeing for myself the enjoyment of the students, the bonding of the group and the chance they have to just be themselves, I would not hesitate to endorse and recommend this trip. Of course, I must thank all my wonderful Year 9s' whose great humour, energy and tolerance made this trip so special. Their smiles and laughs and superb conduct were what made this, the best trip ever. I would also like to thank the staff Mr Harper, Mrs Cotton and Mrs Burton who met every challenge, conquered every ride and pitched in to make things flow so smoothly. A huge thanks guys.

Anyone in year 8 who maybe considering going next year I would urge you to make every effort to be there. It will no doubt be a highlight of your school life. But be warned it is not just a week of great fun and laughs with your friends. To make it through the three days and four nights of action packed excitement in the Queensland sunshine with limited sleep it requires energy and stamina, not to mention a hat and water bottle.



# So Long Taree High

*Sung by Sam Kellahan to Don MacLean's "American Pie" at the  
Year 12 Formal*

A long, long time ago  
I can still remember when  
I didn't go to Taree High  
It's really only been three years  
But through that time  
Spent with my peers  
And teachers, there's some sure things  
That I've learnt  
Canteen lines were made for shoving  
Substitutes aren't good at bluffing  
Always, in the hallways, do stay left  
Tiny laptops are a waste  
Elm Street is a dangerous place  
Keep your bags out of the library  
Or else death  
I can't remember if I cried  
When I heard that Mr. Blanch retired  
But something's touched me deep inside  
Now it's our turn to leave tonight

So bye, bye, now so long Taree High  
Yeah we're going off to live someplace that isn't nearby  
Uni or the workforce as we travel through life  
There'll be a place in our hearts for you guys  
Oh our memories of this school sure won't die

Did you drop a TV set  
On top of someone else's head  
Or launch a trolley down a flight of steps?  
Have you seen skirts on blokes?  
Did you get concussion in the snow?  
Did you threaten to stick a student's head on a pike?  
Well I know Ms Gray is pretty smart  
You won't cut early from her class  
And Mr. Crotty is sound for advice  
As he says it – Maths is 'nice'  
Who's this fearsome, five-foot broncin' buck  
With a heart that's bigger than a pick-up truck?  
Yeah, we sure hit a pot of luck  
When we found Mrs Hall

But now we're singing  
Bye, bye, now so long Taree High  
Yeah, we're going off to live someplace that isn't nearby  
Uni or the workforce as we travel through life

There'll be a place in our hearts for you guys  
Oh the spirit of Spirit Day is alive

Oh wake up Australia – who's that calling?  
Our Ms Kaddy's never dull or boring  
And Ms Salmon's always dropping by for a chat

There's one question on the physicist's lips  
Do you even know what friction is?  
Mr. Reynolds, yes - we promise not to party too hard

Mr Davis worked so hard this year  
He's been spotted wearing Spartan gear  
Yeah, their sanity's been called into question  
And blame is headed in our direction  
Dear teachers you have left your mark  
A subject-shaped brand on our hearts  
Our thanks to you as we depart  
You helped us make it here

And we are singing  
Bye, bye, now so long Taree High

Yeah we're going off to live someplace that isn't nearby  
Uni or the workforce as we travel through life  
There'll be a place in our hearts for you guys  
Oh we'll always be proud alumni

And when we head our separate ways  
To find our promised adult days  
As tricky as you told us they could be  
Always we will feel secure  
Knowing love and rest endure  
Right behind us, with our families in Taree

So bye, bye, now so long Taree High  
Yeah we're going off to live someplace that isn't nearby  
Uni or the workforce as we travel through life  
There'll be a place in our hearts for you guys  
Oh our memories of this school sure won't die

**By Sam Kellahan (School Captain 2012)**

