



TAREE HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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**2012
REFUGEE
WEEK**

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

There has been a lot of information in the media about significant changes in NSW government schools now and into 2013. These changes will impact on Taree High School and include Local Schools, Local Decisions; Every Student, Every School and the Connected Communities Strategy. As information is provided to principals and disseminated to staff and parents, strategies and structures are developed to ensure that all students of Taree High School benefit from the raft of changes. These initiatives involve more localised decision-making in conjunction with parents and external agencies to meet the individual needs of students. It also gives the principal more control of up to 70% of the school budget, to channel into significant initiatives within the school, rather than this being prescribed by the Department of Education. This decision alone has caused a great deal of angst amongst staff and parents who feel it may be a cost cutting measure. There are some local schools who are trialling the "new system" and we will glean information from them about the success or otherwise of this initiative. Parents should be assured that the staff of Taree High are committed to providing the best educational, sporting and cultural experiences to all of our students. Further information sharing will occur through the newsletter and at monthly P&C meetings.

On a lighter note, we celebrated a number of events during Education Week. Two of our inspiring and dedicated teachers, Peter Bull and Leanne Ralston received North Coast Regional Director's Awards for Excellence in Teaching. Beau Harper, our enthusiastic 2013 Year 7 Adviser and his team organised and staged the Taree High School Expo for Year 6 students who will attend THS next year. Students got a whirlwind tour and sample lessons to introduce them to the school. They will return in December for a full Orientation Day.

Last, but by no means least, the staff put on a BBQ breakfast for the cleaning staff of the school to thank them for the outstanding work they do to keep our "space" a clean and hygienic one. It is an absolute pleasure to walk into the school each morning and see how clean the grounds and teaching spaces are. It is a credit to Karen, Shane, Geoff, Ben and Malcolm. Bravo!!!

Allison Alliston



Dates to Remember

28/8/12	P & C Meeting Captains 2013 Campaign Speeches
29/8/12	Social
30/8/12	Yr 7 & Yr 10 Girls Vaccinations
3/9/12	Captains/SRC Voting
8/9/12	CHS Athletics
12/9/12	Boys & Girls U15's Basketball
12-13/9/12	CHS Hockey - Finals
12/9/12	Cricket Carnival - Yrs 7-10
12-14/9/12	Yr 7 Camp
18/9/12	SRC Induction Assembly
19/9/12	Yr 12 Presentation Assembly
20/9/12	Yr 12 Beach Day
21/9/12	Last day of Term 3
8/10	School resumes Term 4
11/10	2013 SRC Orientation Day
16/10	P & C Meeting

DEPUTY'S REPORT

Winter is certainly upon us with frosty mornings and clear sunny days. Third Term can be a challenging one with colds and flu and it is a term where much is asked of students in terms of their workload. When Year 11 return from their snow trip they will be finishing their Preliminary courses while Year 12 face their Trial HSC exams. Juniors also have some big commitments to their work.

With all the demands on students' time and energy, organisation is vital. This begins with every student having at least one copy of their timetable. Students need to be organised with the books and equipment they need each day. Sadly, some students have been arriving at school without books, pens and in some cases without school bags. Parents and carers can help by making sure that students have their bags packed and ready for school each day.

Keeping energy levels up is important too. A healthy breakfast is a good start and combined with a nutritious lunch and snack for recess makes for a good day. Again parents and carers can help by making sure that their children leave home with lunch or that they are able to purchase lunch from the school canteen.

We all need to work on being organised and prepared to

make the most of school and these few tips can help.

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



A 'Thank You' BBQ for our wonderful cleaners - Karen, Shane, Geoff, Ben and Malcolm.

DEPUTY'S REPORT

Over the last few weeks a very wide variety of issues have come across my desk. They typify the breadth of our school.

Cyberbullying was addressed in the support unit by Senior Constable Brad Barry when staff felt that some young people at our school were being immature and irresponsible in their use of technology. Brad Barry was very informative and entertaining for the children. He will return later in the year to give similar talks to staff, other students and parents.

The **tone** of our school is very positive of late. Special events such as the wonderful Spirit Day have been very well received by the students. It was spectacular to see 600 students crammed into the gym watching Ms Alliston and Ms de Reuver doing Sumo Wrestling in full sumo outfits. Congratulations to all involved in the organisation of such a spectacular day.

Benn Saunders [Aboriginal Education Officer] and John Deehan [Head Teacher Support] have come up with some innovative ways to motivate students. They have started to use the Valley Industries facilities in music and gym training. The excitement of the groups when they use these facilities is infectious.

Year 7 is to be commended for their start to Semester 2. Mr Kelly their year patron is very happy to report that welfare and curriculum innovations are going well. New subjects for this semester should be in full swing by now. The finishing touches are also being put on the upcoming camp for Year 7.

Year 9 students are in the midst of making curriculum choices for Year 10. There are special advisors at our school to help with this process. Good luck to Year 9. These decisions on subject choice can influence their career path and lifelong pathways. Their camp at the end of this semester is also going to be very exciting.

Year 11 have just had a break from the rigours of fulltime schooling with many enjoying the snow excursion, some doing work placement, while a few attended school to access past papers for their future assessment tasks. A couple of Primary Industry girls tackling agricultural issues at the ag farm. What a week! But now the reality of more assessment tasks, preliminary examinations, nominations for SRC and voting for school captains is upon the Year 11 students. Good luck with these challenges.

Have a good semester, everyone!
Michael Crotty
Deputy Principal (Yrs 7, 9, 11)



DEPUTY'S REPORT

Uniforms

As the weather has turned cold it seems an opportune time to remind students of appropriate school uniform. Many colours in both jumpers and pants are making their way into the playground as students try to stay warm on chilly mornings. This makes it very difficult to identify students as 'ours' and subsequently to identify people who may have wandered into school grounds who should not be on the premises.

Girls' uniform consists of the school dress (either junior or senior), school skirt, a gold shirt, Year 10 or SRC shirt. Pants or shorts may be worn which are black, but leggings, jeans and very skimpy shorts are not appropriate school uniform. Boys uniform includes grey shorts or pants and a white shirt, either polo or button up. Gold polo shirt and black shorts may also be worn.

Sport uniform is a gold polo shirt and black shorts or tracksuit pants. Girls may wear a black sport skirt instead of shorts if they prefer. Board shorts are not part of acceptable school uniform. If students are involved in swimming or other water activities they may change into their board shorts at the venue of or at lunch time prior to leaving for sport.

Footwear is increasingly becoming an issue around the

school with many forms of the thin canvas shoes being worn. These are not appropriate for school and are particularly a problem in practical subjects where for safety reasons students are required to wear leather shoes which provide some foot protection. Students who do not have correct footwear for practical subjects will not be allowed to participate in practical work and this may impact on overall course performance. It is also important to remember that appropriate shoes for sporting activities should be worn during PE lessons and sport afternoons.

The only jumper which should be worn during school is a plain black jumper or jacket which has no printed design. Year 12, of course, may wear their Year 12 jumpers. There are Taree High School jumpers which are plain black and have the school logo on them which may be purchased from A15 office. Coloured jumpers and those with large prints or images on them are not school uniform.

I look forward to seeing all students in appropriate school uniform in the weeks to come.

Mrs Raylene Starke
Deputy Principal (Yr 10)



CAPTAINS' REPORT

Hi everyone,

Term 3 is underway and quite busy, especially for senior students. While the lucky Year 11's will be exploring the snowy slopes on skis and boards but more often on their bums, Year 12 will be having the time of our lives sitting hours and hours of exams – more commonly known as the HSC Trials. (This time of year is also filled with many important decisions. The nominations for 2012/2013 SRC and Captains have opened. If there are any students who have nominated for these positions but are a little unsure of what's involved, we would be happy to have a chat and tell you about some of our own experiences in these roles.

Recapping from the end of last

term, Spirit Day was a huge success! This year, the activities were based on the theme 'TV' with games including The Amazing Race, A Minute to Win It, Hot Seat, Australia's Next Top Model, V8 Supercar Racing and The Voice. In a surprise session part way through the day some of our braver staff sumo-suited up to face off in the ring. Everyone on the SRC worked extremely hard in preparation for the day and they deserve a big pat on the back.

There is a sad note to the end of this report as it is our final article as the Captains of Taree High. It has been a great experience and we are very honoured to have been in this role for the past year.

Good luck to Year 12 in their Trials and the HSC, to the nominees for the new SRC and

Captains and to the whole student body for the remaining and upcoming year.

Your Captains,



Samuel Kellahan



Maddison Rosser

SRC SECRETARY'S REPORT

Hello and welcome back to another term at Taree High School.

Our SRC is working hard as always, and this is the current SRC's final term before elections. The elections will take place as this publication is being read. Vote wisely!

The SRC is currently organising the Term 3 Social. This will be Year 12's last social, so mass attendance would be excellent.

We have recently run a cake stall which funded another refugee visit. Well done to all the SRC reps that have helped out in making the cake stall possible, particularly the organiser of the event, Amani Jenson-Bentley.

Spirit Cup is usually a major focus, and this year has been no different.

All the hard work which has been done by the whole of the SRC paid off. The to everyone who came and enjoyed an excellent day.

This will be my last secretary's report, as soon the 2013 representatives will be elected and a new secretary will take over.

I would like to congratulate the 2012 SRC for the magnificent work they have done this year. I am sure next year's SRC will achieve just as much as we have done this year-possibly more! Have a great rest of the year!



Patrick Abraham



Spirit Day

Ms Allison getting into the spirit

YEAR 12 REPORT

So this is it. The last 13 years/ 4745 days/ 113880 hours have all built up to this; Year 12's last term of school. EVER...or at least until university.

The almighty HSC exams are looming ominously on the horizon,. Stress levels are at an all-time high within the year group, with every student developing their own methods to deal with this new-found stress; some cry, others yell. Some eat and still other sleep. Some take to staying up to ridiculous hours of the morning watching entire Olympic

marathons and writing verbosely worded expositions for school newsletters. I'll let you guess who the latter is

By the time you read this, we will be nervously sitting their Trial Examinations which, for those of you who are parents of younger students, are Year 12's last internal assessments. I would like to thank all of the loving teachers and other staff of Taree High School. Without the hard work of these individuals there is no way that

any of us would have been able to make it this far. Contrary to how we may behave sometimes, all of us truly do appreciate all of the hard work that you all put in, even if this does involve forcing us to sit gruelling exams and complete assignments.



Jotham Young

YEAR 11 REPORT

Hey Guys,

I hope you all had a great holiday and a good start to Term 3. This is our last term before we begin Year 12 and the HSC.

To all those who were at the snow, I hope you all had a great time and didn't come back with too many bruises and broken bones.

Don't forget to buy your tickets for

the Social in Week 7. It's our third last chance to get to one, so come along and have a good time.

That's about it for now. If you have any ideas or issues about the school bring them up with your friendly SRC Reps to be aired at our SRC weekly meetings.

Good luck with the rest of the term.



Andrew Bowman

YEAR 10 REPORT

Hey Guys and Girls of Year 10,

We hope the year is going good because there is no School Certificate. Keep churning through your school work. Year 11 will be on us before you know it. On another note, stay at school rather than going down the street at lunch time. 'Learning is not that bad'.

just buy food from the canteen, the money made there comes back to us. Also, everyone seems to be getting their licence now. Congratulations. Try not to hurt anyone...

Stay Sweet!!! Stay in school.

Joey Jeffrey



Nathan Somerville

YEAR 9 REPORT

Hi all,

Welcome back to Semester 2 of school. I hope you enjoyed your holidays and all are keen after a brilliant Spirit Day to enjoying your new electives. Rubbish has been a big problem lately in our area so just make sure you put yours in the bin and encourage others to do the same.

This term's social will be Year 12s last so it is guaranteed to be a great one.

Camp is coming up next term from the 5-9 November. The approximate price will be around \$550. The fourth installment of \$80 is due in August and the final balance will be due in October.

All in all, we have the rest of a good term ahead of us.



Miles Thornton



Nicholas Quinn

YEAR 8 REPORT

Hey Guys!

Holidays have come and gone and we're into another working term. Getting our reports was nerve-racking, because we know how much it means to us and our families. Spirit Day was a hit as we had most students participating! With the social being one of our year's

favourite school activities, we're counting down the days until the big night on Wednesday 29 August 6 pm-9 pm.

Unfortunately, there will be many tests in between. Nominations for the SRC 2013 are due. Put your name down if you think you'd do a good job.

Thanks,

Gabbie Aarons-Burton



Abbie Stephen-Nelson

YEAR 7 REPORT

Hey Guys!

We have got a few important events happening this term. There is our upcoming activity centre camp in Morrisset, and there are a few sports still left if you're interested.

Another fantastic thing about this term is that we've got another social soon and its going to

be great. Make sure you come along.

The Theme is 'The Olympics' which will awesome. If you can remember last term, we had an excellent Spirit Day. Special thanks to all the SRC and everybody who was involved, to make Year 7's first Spirit Day as good as possible.

Thanks for reading!



Cameron Le Messurier

Sampson Hillyard



Friendship Field Trip

On Friday 3 August hosted 12 Central African refugees who, after fleeing major conflict areas such as the Congo, Burundi and Rwanda, have been living in Sydney for several years on Humanitarian Visas. GLAPD (Great Lakes Agency for Peace and Development International), our local Migrant Settlement Office, Lucy Hobgood-Brown the Liaison for refugee visitors in Sydney, Rotary, various other helpers and Taree High's P & C all arranged a field trip to the Manning Valley. Taree offered an insight into what rural Australia is like opposed to busy Sydney, as well as offering a potential home for these people. On the field trip as we visited Wingham, explored Taree, were entertained by the musical talents

of Jake Davey, looked into job opportunities and what the area has to offer and even visited the beach. Our visitors were lucky in being able to stay at local residents homes for a night and experience the peacefulness of farms and acreage.

Money was raised for the trip by holding a cake stall (run and catered by our SRC) which raised almost \$300. Thank you to everyone who brought in cakes or helped with the running of it!

All in all the trip was extremely successful with possibilities of some of our visitors being interested in relocating to the area. We were all so lucky to be able to experience the kindness of these people and be able to share this experience with them. Thank you to everyone who had a helping hand in the trip!



Amani Jensen-Bentley



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

As Term 3 gets into full swing it is timely to remind parents and carers of the importance of regular school attendance.

At Taree High School students are expected to be present every day, except in the event of ill health or unforeseen circumstances.



We value attendance and encourage all students to be resilient. These positive values will help students make the transition to the workplace. "Mondayitis" is not a valid reason for staying away from school.

Poor attendance can impact on student learning. Lessons are sequential and need to be caught

up in the event of absence.

Should a student be absent, a note to the school is required on their return. We have an absentee booklet which is available from the A15. This booklet is very convenient to use for partial or full days absences. If these absences are not explained by phone or in writing within seven (7) days, an unexplained absence is recorded.

School sport on Wednesday afternoons is also an integral part of the school syllabus.

Concern has also been expressed by teachers about some seniors' attendance on Wednesdays. All lessons scheduled for Wednesday morning are important, even if students are not required at school on Wednesday afternoon.

If students are injured or unable to

do sport, a note is required to be submitted between 8.30-9.00 am at A15 office. Parents are discouraged from presenting at A15 at lunchtime to sign students out.

Fractional truancy is also an unacceptable practice. Teachers do mark rolls every lesson and students are expected to be in class every period they are at school.

If parents, carers and the school work together, we can ensure that all students value attendance and understand that there are consequences for poor attendance.

M Crozier
Head Teacher Welfare

New South Wales State SRC Conference

From 30 July to 3 August I attended the NSW State SRC Conference which was held at Vision Valley in Sydney. The Conference is made up of around 130 students from different regions across NSW. On Monday July 30 I flew (with four other students from the North Coast Region) to Sydney. The actual Conference didn't officially begin until the Tuesday so we had Monday to settle in. State conference is run entirely by the SCAT (Student Conference Action Team) which is made up entirely of other students, most of whom had attended the Conference the previous year. The SCAT team and other conference organisers had been working extremely hard planning this Conference since the beginning of the year.

Each year the Conference has a different theme. The theme this year was REPRESENT! This theme was chosen to encourage SRCs to try and represent their student body more, rather than getting lost in fundraisers and school dances. Our itineraries were pretty jam-packed each day with a number of workshops and keynote speakers. Most of the workshops reflected the REPRESENT theme, identifying strategies which would help to create a more efficient and effective SRC. The man who reflected the theme the most was the keynote speaker, Roger Holdsworth. Mr Holdsworth is a Senior Research Associate at the Australian Youth Research Centre. He wrote the Victorian SRC Resource Kit which the NSW State SRC are in the process of distributing throughout NSW. Mr Holdsworth spoke about increasing activity amongst our SRCs and he thought that this could be done by aiming higher - higher than

fundraisers and school dances. Our schedule also included a trivia night and a dance which everyone enjoyed. Throughout the week many friendships evolved which only made for an extremely emotional farewell! While we were all looking forward to coming home and sleeping in our own beds, many of us did not want Friday to come because it meant that we had to part and say good bye. So as you can imagine, when Friday arrived it brought tears... But everyone took comfort in the fact that we'd all vowed to stay in touch!

I am just so grateful that I had the opportunity to be a part of the conference! I would encourage any Year 9/10 SRC students to nominate as it is such a fantastic experience!



Madeline Heron

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS THS Music Faculty

In Week 4 Ms Ralston and Mr Bull were awarded Regional Director's Awards for Excellence in Teaching at our weekly assembly. We caught up with them to gauge their thoughts on this prestigious achievement.

Q: What was the procedure leading up to the awards announcement?

A: We were nominated by the school and went through the selection process as a team.

Q: What's your next project:

A: We are currently creating an entry in the Woolworths Earn and Learn competition (which also involves collecting stickers in

order to gain music gear for the school). Taree High's music and digital media students are making a short movie which could win us 10 000 extra points at State level. 40 000 points at Nationals which would have Rickie-Lee Coulter perform at our school.

Q: Who would you like to thank?

A: We would like to thank all the wonderful students and staff of Taree High School who make our jobs so wonderful and also the parents who support their children and us in everything we do!

Congratulations and thank you to Mr Bull and Ms Ralston for their time.

Nick Johnson and Jotham Young



NEWSLETTERS

The school's newsletters are on the Taree High School website: www.taree-h.schools.nsw.edu.au If you would like a hard copy of the newsletters you will need to fill out a request form which is available at A15.

Spirit Cup

This year we had a huge turnout for Spirit Day. The competitive spirit which was shown all day by all four houses was huge, resulting in a proud day for Taree High.

Some changes, such as a themed day and a different surprise activity, gave the whole day a fresh new feel which was enjoyed by all. Millionaire, Hot Seat, The Amazing Race, A Minute to Win It, V8 racing and The Voice were all well received by the majority of students.

The SRC put in a lot of hard work in organizing the day as well as running it. The hard work paid off with many students referring to it as the best Spirit Day ever. Dancing in the quad, sumo-wrestling in the gym and positive spirit all over the school made the day a huge success. Well



done to all students who showed pride, excitement and behaved so well.

However, during these festivities there had to be a winner. The war cries were bigger and better than ever and were the perfect climax of the day. The Spirit Cup 2012 went to Peel! Runner-up was Hook. In third place was Murray. Manning came fourth.

Thank you to all participating staff and students who made this day worthwhile and fun. Be prepared for next year!



Congratulations Peel!

Patrick Abraham



A SAFE AND FRIENDLY LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Food Drive



Last term our school proved that a small idea can grow into something productive and charitable. When Jaimie-Lee Leslie and I came up with the idea of a food drive, we had no idea it would even go ahead, let alone how successful it would be. So as you all should know, the food drive ran for the duration of Term Two. For every item of food donated a point was awarded to one of the four school houses. We asked staff and students to bring in lots of non-perishable food, and you delivered. In the final tally. 336 food items had been donated. In first place was Hooke with 140 donated items, then in second came Manning with 74 items, third was Peel with 68

donated items. Bringing up the rear in fourth place was Murray with 54 donated food items.

I recently sat down with Captain Melanie Holland from the Salvation Army (where the food was donated) to ask her about the effect that the food drive will have in the local area.

Q. Tell us a bit about yourself.

A. My name is Melanie; I work at the Salvation Army in Taree. I'm actually the Minister there.

Q. We donated 30 shopping bags of groceries. How many families in the area do you think this will help?

A. Every family is a different size but we help about 27 families a week with either food relief or helping to pay electricity bills. Lately people have been under more pressure as the electricity price rises. On the other side of that though is that the

people of the community are under the same pressures so they are less able to donate food or money, so that leaves us (the Salvation Army) with less money to help out. So this will help relieve that pressure a little bit.

Q. Is winter harder than other times in the year?

A. In some ways, but mostly the busiest time of year is over the Christmas period, where people tend to stretch themselves a bit thinly. We offer financial counselling services to help people to plan and to be more resourceful with their money.

Q. What impact will this have in the local area?

A. It will help because it will allow us to extend how we can help people. This will help fill people pantries for a while. We give people vouchers so they can buy perishable

foods as well as fresh fruits and vegetables. With support from the public, like your school's food drive, it will help these vouchers last a bit longer. People's pantries will stay fuller for longer and it will help to relieve the strain they may feel at this time of year.

A massive thank you to everyone who donated food. Because of your help, local community members will be having more food in their pantries and they will be able to relax a little.

Thanks again.
Isabelle Avent



NIDA



Last Term Olivia from NIDA, (the National Institute of Dramatic Arts) came to Taree High School for a practical Drama Workshop.

Years 8-11 were involved throughout the day. We were introduced to a range of play building activities. Year 11 really benefitted from the Workshop for our end of year major group performers. It was a great success.



Kenzie Barber



Zac Collier



Jake Davey

Wow! What a night! The triple M concert held in the last week of Term 2 was full of a variety of musical talent from acoustic to rock!

There were many talented students involved in the night, whether it was performing or taking care of our guests with the yummy food that was prepared and provided by the hospitality crew. Taree High staff put their heart and soul into making the Triple M concert a spectacular evening!

A big thank you to all who performed, cooked, cleaned and supported the concert!

A great time was had by all!

TRIPLE M

NATIONAL TREE DAY 2012



On Wednesday 25 July, members of the SRC went to Brown's Creek to participate in the Schools' Tree Day as part of Planet Ark's National Tree Day. National Tree Day aims to provide an opportunity for all Australians to do something positive for the environment. It is Australia's biggest community tree-planting and nature care event. Since its founding in 1996, 17 million registered native trees and shrubs have been planted by 2.8 million Australians. Each year, about 200,000 students participate in the Schools Tree Day, providing a fantastic opportunity for children to make a real impact on the environment they live in. However, I'd also like to encourage everyone to plant a tree every now and then, even when it isn't National Tree Day. Every native tree or shrub you plant makes a difference to the face of Australia.

Eden Gonfond



Textiles Students Wrapped

On Friday 3 August, 11 Textiles and Design students assisted in the ABC/Taree Library "Wrapped with Love" wrap race.

The students formed teams of four to sew knitted squares together, competing with teams from Taree Library and Halliday's Point Library.

Unfortunately the experience of both the library teams defeated the students, who worked well as teams in completing three wraps.

Thank you to Danielle Old for inviting the school again and providing sustenance for participants when competing. Thank you from the organisers to all the student participants.



Ms Tate

Dr Dorothy "Billie" Greening- A Retrospective



(Courtesy of the Manning River Times)

Toward the end of last term Mrs Fatherley, Maddy and I had the privilege of joining with friends, family members and associates of the late Dorothy Greening to pay our respects to this remarkable woman who gave generously over the years to many, including several students of Taree High.

Dr Greening was the first obstetrics and gynaecology specialist in the Manning Valley. In the years when the area was dominated by general practitioners who wanted the valley to remain "generalist", she faced stern opposition in setting up her practice, but carried on, determined.

Prior to this time, she served as a nurse in WWII, memorising the eye test chart and faking a birth

certificate by two years to gain entry into the Australian Army. After serving her country, "Billie" went on to study medicine at the University of Sydney, and earned specialist degrees in obstetrics and gynaecology at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists in England. On completion of these degrees, she returned to Wingham where she set up her practice, delivering hundreds of babies during her years as the area's lone specialist.

In 2008, she inaugurated a scholarship at Taree High with an establishing donation of \$50,000, which is aimed at supporting students aspiring to study medicine at university. This was just one of many philanthropic actions – Dr Greening established a similar scholarship at Wingham High and another, through a \$100,000 donation, at the University of Sydney. She offered her own challenging experience of working as a visiting nurse to support her tertiary studies, as the reason behind wanting to establish the scholarships. Her generous attitude was captured in this quote after her donation to Taree High, "Basically, I'm in my 90's, I've got all this money, so what am I going to do with it?" It was a moving ceremony that Mrs Fatherley, Maddy and I were honoured to be a part of last term. As part of the service, members of the local RSL farewelled Dr Greening with full military honours.

a reminder of the proud time she dedicated to serving her. Each family member and friend who spoke shared a fond memory of this somewhat mischievous woman, who lived a very full life distinguished by her passionate generosity. I never had the privilege of meeting "Billie" Greening in person, but from the testimony of so many others, as well as the legacy that she has left behind, I can appreciate what an inspirational woman she was.

EFTPOS HAS ARRIVED TO TAREE HIGH

You may now pay for excursions, fees and make purchases by EFTPOS at the A15 Office. Internet banking, cash or cheque payments are still an option. There is no cash out facility.

Social

Wednesday 29 August
6-9 pm THS Hall

Theme: "Olympics"

Tickets \$5 from A15. Uniform and student ID required when purchasing.

Lucky Door prizes on the night!

Oxley Island Public School 150th Anniversary Celebrations

Come and reminisce the good old days

Saturday 8 September 2012

Ceremony at 10am

Performances by the students, BBQ, Devonshire teas, history books and cook books for sale, souvenirs and raffles.

On Saturday night join us at the hall, dancing to the Red Cedar band. Starts at 6.30 pm. Bring a plate. Prizes to won.

Contacts: Oxley Island Public School 6553 2466
Julie Barlin P & C President 0428473754

Techno-Push



During Terms 1 and 2, Mr Webber's Year 8 Metal work class were involved in the NRMA's Techno-Push challenge. The challenge was to design and construct a push cart from

recycled materials with a heavy focus on incorporating road and driver safety into the design.

On 1 August Mr Webber, Mr Husband and the 12 students headed off to Raleigh Raceway with the 'Taree Terror Cart' for the first of their racing challenges. The day consisted of different challenges for cart assembly and demonstration (timed), obstacle and braking trial (timed), sprint relay and then the road safety adventure water spillage challenge. The team of students all performed well especially in the speed, braking and road safety challenges and only losing some water from the water carrier when we hit the off-road section at high speed!

The team ended up leaving the day with the road safety trophy which delighted everybody.

Then on Wednesday 15 August the team set out again, this time for Eastern Creek Raceway in Sydney to compete against around 3000 students from all over the state. Students got to work from a real pit garage which was exciting and was required for the 2 quick puncture

repairs between races. Small alterations to the cart after Raleigh resulted in better performances and the students felt very confident after their obstacle and sprint events.

The Road Safety Adventure water spillage challenge was the highlight of the day with some intense concentration required from both drivers and pushers and zero water lost from the cart!

The end result was fantastic with the 'Taree High School Terrors' winning trophies for 'Engineering Excellence' and the coveted 'Overall' Performance Award'. This was the first time any school had won more than one award in the one day.

The students should be very proud of their achievements and would like to thank Mr Webber for assisting in the design, construction and organisation of Taree High School's first ever participation in the Techno-Push event.



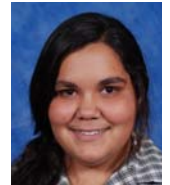
CAKES, CAKES AND MORE CAKES



NAIDOC Day

Last term our school celebrated NAIDOC Week through numerous activities. We had special guests come to entertain and speak to us. We also had an assembly where the Biripi welcome dance was performed by Manning Gardens students and a speech was given acknowledging the country in Gathang (the traditional Biripi Language) by Tayah Brown.

At assembly Deadly Awards were presented to students and staff. Our school was entertained by Andrew Saunders and Jay performing "bust a move." We also had Sam Meehan come and talk to us about respect for all people despite colour and race and how much we can learn from other people. He also performed the didgeridoo. Many students were involved in the didgeridoo and Gathang Language workshops that were running through recess and lunch.



Leteah Mitchell

Workshops for parents, supervisors and learner drivers

An important component of the Graduated License scheme is that all learner drivers complete a minimum of 120 hours supervised on-road driving experience prior to presenting for their provisional P license.

The Road Traffic Authority is holding a **FREE** two hour workshop for parents, supervisors and learner drivers to offer practical advice to parents and supervisors on how to help learner drivers become safer drivers. These workshops provide information about:

- Understanding the new laws for L and P license holders
- Completing the Learner Driver Log Book
- Understanding the benefits of supervised on-road driving experience
- Supervising learner drivers

WEA Hunter on behalf of the RTA will be

conducting the workshop as follows:

Day: Tuesday
Date: 28 August 2012
School: Taree High School
Venue: Taree High School Hall, corner Albert & Macquarie Streets
Time: 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Bookings are essential and all enquiries should be directed to Debbie Burton at WEA Hunter on 4925 4200, Beth Fuller(P&C President) on 6553 1804 or Front Office – Taree High School on 6552 1166.

Yours sincerely

Debbie Burton
Business Development Officer
WEA Hunter
T: (02) 4925 4209 | **M:** 0418 617 836 | **F:** (02) 4929 6845

E: dburton@weahunter.com.au

W: www.weahunter.com.au



Hey Parents/Supporters of THS

Our school cares about your child's health and nutrition! Did you know that our school is a member of Healthy Kids Association? That's right, we want to provide good food and nutrition education to your children and Healthy Kids provides us with resources for the canteen and teachers. We are working with the school to put a Fresh Tastes @ THS approach in place. This will give some guidelines that will help provide healthy food choices for all events your student is involved in, whether when purchasing at our canteen, at school events or on school excursions. Once this approach has met all the ticks of approval, we'll put a copy on the THS website for your reference.

Healthy Kids Association also provides a free parent e-newsletter with important nutrition information and great recipes that can help you stay on top of what is going on in the world of nutrition. To sign up, simply visit www.healthy-kids.com.au.

Cheers,

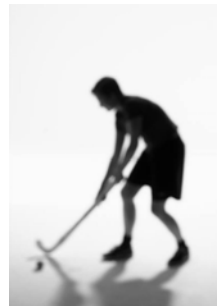
Dana Jowett
THS Canteen Manager

SPORT

OPEN BOYS HOCKEY

On Thursday 2 August, fourteen boys travelled to the Taree Hockey fields to play Wagga High School in the Hunter finals. The game from start to finish was a fast and intense match. Taree's defence combined with a very strong attack saw the well organized team victorious with 10 goals to 2.

With this convincing win, the team will travel to Newcastle in September to play in the state finals against other teams with similar skills and stamina.



Zac Collier

2012 FUTSAL NORTHERN NSW CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

This competition was held at Port Macquarie's Indoor Stadium on 13 August, 2012 with schools competing from the Manning, Coffs Coast and Hastings School Titles. Taree High qualified to compete in this tournament with a boys team in the U14 division. The team consisted of:

Callum Bartley, Sean Pole-Cini, Lucas Mepham, Lachlan Nesbitt, Max Le Messurier, Isaac Worboys, Mitchell Brown, Kyle Extrem, Jake Lauder.

On the day we won three games and lost one. This places us with the silver medals in this division and qualifies us for the Australasian Championships on the Gold Coast in November! Congratulations boys on a great effort!

Results: We played our first game at 8:30am followed by a game at 10am, 11:30am and our final game at 3pm. To qualify we needed to win the last game well and/or hope another one of the teams were defeated or won by a small margin due to our for and against. This sounds complicated and it was on the day with a multi-

tude of different scenarios speculated upon.

Game 1 vs Camden Haven 4-0 Win (Solid performance from all players)

Game 2 vs St Columba 7-4 Win (Continued excellent performance from all players)

Game 3 vs Bellingen 2-9 Loss (Complacent and below average performance due to fatigue with minimal luck. Also this was only Bellingen's 2nd game and they were a highly polished team)

Game 4: Wauchope 9-0 (Slow, nervous start but great finish after returning to the basics)

Well done again boys and let's see what we can do at the Gold Coast. More training will help too!



Mr J. Kelly
(Teacher Coach/Organiser)

\$500 to Assist with Education Costs

Do you have a child at school and would \$500 help cover your education expenses?

The Smith Family is running a Taree savings program that can help you save for your children’s education.

Saver Plus rewards your saving efforts by matching every dollar you save with another dollar from ANZ, up to \$500.

It also offers 4 FREE Financial Workshops.

Many Taree families are already taking advantage of the Saver Plus program and are saving for their educational expenses.

To be eligible you must:

- *be a parent or guardian of a student attending school, or be intending to attend accredited vocational training yourself
- *have a current health care card or pension card, and
- *have some income from work. (even a few hrs will count)

Saver Plus is giving families a brighter future by providing an incentive to save for education.

For more information contact Mark Norris, Saver Plus Coordinator on 65578284 or 0429 820 9744 or email mark.norris@thesmithfamily.com.au

Congratulations

Ms Burton, Ms Last and recycling students	Ongoing efforts to create a more sustainable planet for us all
Mr Bull Ms Ralston	Regional Director’s Awards for Excellence in Teaching recipients
Ben Saunders	GTCC Manning Indigenous Community Awards -Indigenous Employee of the Year Award
Mr Webber and the THS Terrors’ students	NRMA Techno Push Engineering excellence and Overall Performance Awards
THS Cleaners	A job well done!
Mrs Hutchinson and the Spirit Sport students	Ongoing efforts to maintain and beautify THS
Amani Jensen-Bentley	Contribution and support of the African Great Lakes community of NSW
Dana Jowett - Canteen Manager	For all your involvement in fundraising for the school.

P & C News

P&C Actions planned for August-October 2012 include:

28 August THS P&C meeting: We’ll be hearing about the role of the CAREERS ADVISOR from Glen Bowman and getting an update on matters that relate to DET policy from Greg Pickard.(eg *Local Schools Local Decisions*).

Meeting runs this month from 5.15-6.00pm, and we’ll be in the School Hall

28 August 6.00-8.00pm: The THS P&C is hosting a workshop for parents, supervisors and learner drivers. About to launch into the journey of L-plates and Red-P’s? this is the workshop for you. The RTA facilitator will be going over the laws, responsibilities and giving tips on how to survive the process! The workshop is FREE and both parents and students are encouraged to register. 30 places are available for the workshop.

Register your place for the RTA workshop with Beth on 65531804 or @THS 65521166

Our LED noticeboard should be up and ‘broadcasting’ message from the THS School Hall this term.

Calling all parents to help THS walk around the world on **September 5**. We’ve joining forces with the GTCC Healthy Communities initiative, to celebrate **National**

Health & Physical Education Day and to see how many kilometres that THS can clock up on the treadmill – and see where we can reach as our global destination!

Can you help on the day? We’re putting a treadmill in the quad, and inviting students, staff and students to see how far we can get around the globe.

The *weGrow School-Community garden* is about to have it’s make-over (via the bob-cat). Visit the THS P&C webpage to see more on this exciting project.

Fundraising has created the trailer to be used by the THS Agriculture students involved in transporting animals to agricultural shows. Keep an eye out for it around the area – the signs are a fantastic promotion of the magnificent things that happen at THS --- go Dana! (and thanks to all who supported the pie-drive).

Beth Fuller
(THS P & C President)

Taree High Boys U15' s Bill Turner Soccer Team



This is the team that represented Taree High School earlier in the year in the Bill Turner Cup competition. All played well and represented the school with good team spirit.

Back row

Nick Quinn (9) Warwick Priest (9) Lucas Mephram (8)
Joey Jeffrey (10) Miles Thornton (9) Lachlan Nesbitt(8)

Middle Row:

Sam Addison (7) Max Le Messurier (8) Callum Bartley (8)

Front Row:

Cameron Le Messurier (7) Jack Addison (9) Nathan Somerville(10) Sean Pole-Cini (8)

Absent:

Jack Piercy (9) Luke Woods (9) Aidan Drenkhahn (9)
Lachlan Edge (9) Michael Blanch (8) Mitchell Brown (8)

Student Assistance

Parents and Carers are reminded that "Student Assistance" is available to assist with the payment of school expenses. Each child may be funded for the amount of \$60 per semester. If you would like to access 'Student Assistance', forms can be collected from A15 to be completed and returned to Ms Gray in an envelope marked 'Confidential.'

OPEN DAY SUNDAY 26 AUGUST 2012

9.00AM REGISTRATION AVAILABLE ON THE DAY AND NIPPER CALENDERS FOR THE UPCOMING SEASON
9.00AM SWIM AND BOARD TRAINING AND DEMONSTRATIONS
9.30AM IRB TRAINING AND DEMONSTRATIONS
11.00AM SPRINT TRAINING
1.00PM FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE AND REFRESHMENTS
FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CONTACT THE CLUB ON
blackheadsisc@bigpond.com



Library News



August brings us round to that time of year when we celebrate Australian literature for young people. The short list this year is impressive with the winners being announced on 17th August. The slogan is

Champions Read

recognising our Olympic & the "International Year of Reading"

Take a look at these in the library:

One Golden Day by Ursula Dubosarsky, a beautiful, haunting novel from the author of the multi-award-winning *The Red Shoe*. Set in 1967, and imbued with the atmosphere and psychological intrigue of *Picnic at Hanging Rock*.
Ishmael and the Hoops of Steel by Michael Gerard Bauer. Ishmael has made it to Senior School and things are really looking up. His nemesis and chief tormentor Barry Bagsley has finally decided to leave him alone, while his dream girl and chief goddess Kelly Faulkner has finally decided not to. Has he broken free of Ishmael Leseur's Syndrome at last? Could his remaining two years at St Daniel's College actually be described as 'normal'? Absolutely not.

The Dream of the Thylacine by Margaret Wild and Ron Brooks

is an arresting and beautiful picture book about a shimmering encounter with the Tasmanian tiger, a lament for a lost species, and a compelling evocation of the place of animals in Nature.



The Dead I Know by Scot Gardner is about a character called Aaron Rowe who has dreams he can't explain, and memories he can't recover. But if he doesn't discover the truth about his hidden past soon, he may fall asleep one night and never wake up. A potent, intense, psychodrama that will keep you gripped to the very last page.

Surrealism for kids by Queensland Art Gallery.

Surrealism for Kids is a 60p book exploring ideas and approaches behind Surrealism in a series of activities for children to do at home or in the classroom. Richly illustrated & profiling several artists, including Salvador Dalí, André Breton & Max Ernst.



**National
Year of
Reading
2012**

Keep a look out for this terms edition of
"Latest Releases"

Lets all keep reading

Heather Abbott .. Teacher Librarian