



TAS
THE ARMIDALE
SCHOOL

EXPLORE
EXPERIENCE
EXCEL

TAS TALKS

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 16 May, 2018 Term 2 Week 3

FROM THE HEADMASTER



Mr Murray Guest

P&F AGM

Last Wednesday evening our P&F held their annual general meeting and I am pleased to report that through a combination of good planning and generosity of spirit all positions on the Executive were happily filled and I thank all those who have offered their services for the coming year. Our continuing P&F President, Rachael Nicoll, has reported on the AGM in this edition of TAS Talks, including the names of those joining the new Executive and the adoption of the re-written P&F Constitution and I commend that report to you. Rachael also offers two important invitations to parents in her report which I encourage all parents to take up. The first is to become a 'voting member' of the P&F by clicking on the link in her report to fill in a short form.

This is something required by new government legislation and will only take a moment to complete. The second is to come along to the next meeting of the P&F on 27 June to be a part of the decision making process for funding P&F projects this year. Many people contribute to the raising of the funds that will be allocated and it would be good to see lots of parent involvement in deciding how those funds will be spent.

Sydney Grammar School Visit

It was a great privilege to host Sydney Grammar School again last weekend and it was a visit for which we were especially grateful. This was the third consecutive year that Grammar has travelled to Armidale and this year it coincided with the launch of our rugby season. In recent years the TAS home season has been marred by the decision of some schools not to travel to Armidale and so having Grammar with us last weekend was very much appreciated. I offer our special thanks to the Grammar Headmaster, Dr Malpass for his generosity of spirit and camaraderie with TAS, as well as Mr Lachlan Fear from Grammar and our Director of Co-curricular Activities Will Caldwell for their vision and passion in making it happen. As expected, the rugby was played in fine spirit with many of the games, including the First XV, being closely fought and entertaining spectacles.

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FROM THE HEADMASTER

NAPLAN

This week all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will sit NAPLAN literacy and numeracy tests over three days. As I commented in the Term 1 Newsletter, I am very pleased that the grossly misdirected policy of using NAPLAN results to judge minimum standards for the award of the HSC has been reversed and NAPLAN has returned its original function of providing diagnostic information on literacy and numeracy that is nationally benchmarked. Whilst national reporting of NAPLAN data through the MySchool website continues to elevate this simple diagnostic test to an importance it does not deserve, it is good to see the link to the HSC broken.

However, minimum standards will still apply for the award of the HSC. Students may sit for the online minimum standards tests when they are ready in Year 10, 11 or 12 and the tests will be offered in each term. Parents and students wanting more information on the tests, including sample tests and test dates, should follow the link: <http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-minimum-standard/online-tests>

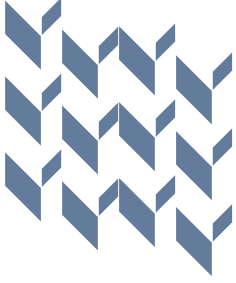
Eisteddfod

The month long journey of the Armidale Eisteddfod juggernaut began yesterday with junior choirs through the course of the day and the gala 'Choirs Night' at UNE's Lazenby Hall in the evening. TAS had a strong presence at the Choirs Night and I offer special congratulations to the TAS Senior Choir, made up of the TAS Young Voices, TAS Singers (boys) and TAS Cantique (girls) who won the 19 years and under competition. Perhaps the highlight of the night though was the performance of Paul Jarman's 'Soldier On' by the massed TAS Community Choir which adds the TAS Chapel Choir and staff to the Senior Choir, accompanied by a small orchestra. This impressive choir did justice to a powerful and emotive piece that has now established its place in the culture of TAS and it was good to see such a big audience appreciate it so much.

For our music staff it will be a long month ahead, but they can be satisfied that a wonderful start has been made. I thank them on behalf of all our musicians for their work and wish them well for the remainder of the Eisteddfod.

Murray Guest





WEEK 3

Wednesday 15 May

NAPLAN Reading Test

Thursday 16 May

NAPLAN Numeracy Test

Year 9 Parent Teacher Interviews

Friday 18 May

Boarding Schools Expo (Dubbo)

NCIS Cross Country (Ballina)

Year 9 Parent Teacher Interviews

Saturday 19 May

Rugby v Cranbrook

WEEK 4

Wednesday 23 May

State da Vinci Decathlon (Knox)

Armidale Eisteddfod Dance (Ex-Services Club)

Thursday 24 May

State da Vinci Decathlon (Knox)

Friday 25 May

Ancient History Study Day Years 11/12 (UNE)

WEEK 4

Monday 28 May

Years 6-10 Semester Exams

Tuesday 29 May

Years 6-10 Semester Exams

Thursday 31 May

Years 6-10 Semester Exams

Year 11 Parent/Teacher Interviews (2pm)

Friday 1 June

Years 6-10 Semester Exams

Year 11 Parent/Teacher Interviews (2pm)



Queen's Birthday Weekend travel dates

Classes end Thursday 7 June 3.30 PM

Depart school Friday 8 June AM

Boarders return to school Monday 11 June PM

Classes resume Tuesday 8.45 AM (Timetable Day 7)

Parents/carers are asked to submit their bookings now so that the busiest weekend in the free coach/train calendar runs as smoothly as possible. Please note that boarding houses are closed on this weekend. Day students also enjoy an extra day off school on Friday 8 June as staff are involved in meetings, staff training and lesson preparation.



Health Centre

During the winter months we will have a visiting physiotherapist working from the Health Centre on Tuesday mornings. To make an appointment please phone the Health Centre 0428 152 291.

HOME RUGBY GAMES ON SATURDAY AGAINST CRANBROOK

Our second home rugby fixture for the year is on this Saturday 19 May. We're playing against Cranbrook School from Sydney. Under 13 rugby players and their families are on Canteen duty this weekend however all extra helpers are welcome. Therefore, if you would like to bake or bring something, whip up some soup or help on the P&F Canteen and BBQ please feel free.

On an administrative note – if you have loaned us any containers or other items from sports events including the Rugby Carnival or home rugby games these can be collected from main Reception.

NEW EXECUTIVE AND NEW CONSTITUTION

At our AGM last Wednesday we said goodbye to two P&F Executives – Dave Fenwicke who stood down from being Vice President and Sal Molesworth who stood down after four years as Secretary and one as Vice Treasurer – an amazing stint of service to the P&F! Both Sal and Dave will be sorely missed.

Our new Executive for 2018/19 is:

Rachael Nicoll – President

David Lawson – Vice President

Fiona Nash – Treasurer

Melissa Jubb – Vice Treasurer

Sophia Wright – Secretary

Karen Morgan & Jo Neilson – Vice Secretaries

During a busy meeting we also ratified our new Constitution. If you want to have a read of this it is on our webpage. Essentially our new Constitution is a massive re-write and modernisation of the previous constitution. It is now in line with the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW) and its amendments and is also very similar to that of the Old Armidaliens Union and the TAS Foundation Constitutions.

The Objects of the P&F have not been changed. We are still an inclusive organisation for all parents and friends of TAS... You are all automatically members when your child starts at TAS. However, to meet requirements of the legislation, if you wish to be on the Committee or Executive or vote at our meetings you must now become a Voting Member. To be a Voting Member you just need to fill in a form (link provided below) and send it to Mrs Jo Neilson jneilson@as.edu.au **CLICK HERE**.

Forms can be filled in at any time, including if you pop in to a meeting.

NEXT P&F MEETING WEDNESDAY 27 JUNE – ANNUAL FUNDING MEETING

Come and help us spend the money you've helped us raise at the Funding Meeting on **Wednesday 27 June at 7pm** in the Maxwell Room.

If you would like to come along and help us determine where the money we have raised in the past year should be allocated we'd love to see you there. Meetings are open to all parents... but to vote you need to be a Voting Member – just fill in that form! Alternatively, if you wish to put forward a proposal for the use of funds please send these to Mr Guest as soon as possible so all proposals can be evaluated prior to the meeting.

If you have any queries about the funding process please contact Rachael Nicoll on nicollfamily1@gmail.com

Mrs Rachael Nicoll
P&F President



Year 9 Parent Teacher Interviews

Year 9 Parent Teacher Interviews will be held this week on Thursday 17 May (3.30 - 6pm) and Friday 18 May (2-5.30pm)

A link and code have been sent to parents. Bookings and changes to bookings will be closed from Wednesday afternoon at 5pm. If you wish to change your booking times after this you will need to contact Mrs Vickey O'Brien - 6776 5806 or vobrien@as.edu.au
There is no Year 9 Parent Information Sessions at this time.

Year 11 Parent Teacher Interviews

A reminder that Year 11 Parent Teacher Interviews will be held in Week 5 - WEDNESDAY 30 May (3.30pm - 6pm) and THURSDAY 31 May (2pm - 5.30pm).

Two Parent Information Sessions will also be held at this time - Wednesday 30 May beginning at 6.15pm and Thursday 31 May beginning at 11.45am

An email will be sent to parents containing the link and personal web code to book interview times with teachers.



Mrs Seonia Wark

Tutor Timetable - Library

Tutoring is available for students in Years 9 -12 in English, Maths, Science, Biology and Physics. See timetable below.

Monday	Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday	
Years 9 - 12	Years 9 - 12		Years 9 - 12		Years 9 - 12	
Library	Library		Library		Library	
7 – 8pm	7 – 8pm	7 – 8pm	7 – 8pm	7 – 8pm	7 – 8pm	7 – 8pm
Maths	Chemistry	English	Advanced Maths	English	Maths Standard	Maths/Science
Yr 11/12	Yr 11/12	Yr 9/10	Yr 11/12	Yr 9/10	Yr 11/12	Yr 9/10
(Laura)	(Laura)	(Belinda)	(Julian)	(Belinda)	(Julian)	(Liam)
8 – 9pm	8 – 9pm	8 – 9pm	8 – 9pm	8 – 9pm	8 – 9pm	8 – 9pm
Science/Maths	Biology Yr 11/12	English	Maths Ext	English	Maths	Physics
Yr 9/10	(Laura)	Yr 11/12	Yr 11/12	Yr 11/12	(all levels)	Yr 11/12
(Laura)		(Belinda)	(Julian)	(Belinda)	Yr 11/12	(Liam)
					(Julian)	

Extended Academic Day Program - Library

A reminder of TAS' Extended Academic Day Program and the opening hours of the Library.

Early Morning Program (7:30am – 8:45am Monday to Friday for Years 6 to 12)

The Library will open from 7.30am for students who are at school for early commitments or just want to work quietly or read before the school day starts.

Afternoon Program (3:30pm – 6pm Mondays to Thursdays for Years 6 to 8)

Literacy and Numeracy sessions are available . Charges apply for Day students at \$15 per afternoon.

Please contact Mrs Vickey O'Brien vobrien@as.edu.au if you wish to book your child in for one of these sessions
Day students must be collected by 6pm.

Evening Program (3:30pm – 6pm Mondays to Thursdays for Years 9 to 12)

The library is also open for all students in Years 9 to 12 to work quietly.

Friday Afternoon Program (3:30pm – 5.30pm for Years 6 to 12)

The library will be open for all students in Years 6 to 12 to work quietly until 5.30pm.

There is no specific academic support available during this time.

The library will be supervised at all times by Mrs Bremner or Mrs Polson. They are available to give general guidance but not specific tutoring in areas of concern. Day students are able to access the Dining Hall at breakfast or dinner by swiping their Student Card at the door. Costs associated with meals will be added to their TAS account.

Mrs Seonia Wark



ACADEMIC

Japan Study Tour Information Evening

An Information Evening will be held in the Japanese room on Thursday, 17 May from 6:00pm. This meeting will outline the goals of the trip and provide information on the itinerary for the Study Tour in April 2019. It will also provide an opportunity for you to ask questions about the trip.

The Trip is open to students currently studying Japanese in Years 8, 9 and 10 and intend to study Japanese next year. Other students who intend to study Japanese next year are also invited to participate.

This is the third TAS trip to Japan and we will be visiting Tokyo, Takayama, Kyoto, Himeji, Hiroshima, and our exchange school at Meitoku on the island of Shikoku. Students will also have the opportunity to have a three night homestay in Mitoyo.

Bookings are to be made soon so don't miss out on participating on this amazing trip. Please contact Allan Moore at amoore@as.edu.au to confirm your attendance and if you require more details.



Development Office

Proudly announcing the launch here in TAS Talks of our new TAS Videos. Click on the links below to see the 4 new videos for the digital campaign we will be running this term.

These videos will appear on Facebook, the TAS website, on our You Tube channel and will be promoted throughout websites for a couple of weeks.

Happy viewing !!



Judging Performance

It is reasonable to judge what is in front of us and we are all entitled to an opinion. I have just returned from the Armidale Eisteddfod Choral Night, where the TAS Senior Choir was judged to be the winner of the 19 years & under choirs. However, prior to the announcement, the entire audience had an opinion on what they liked, what was beautiful, uplifting, stirring, creative. The judge was qualified to measure skill; the choir's ability to transform the spoken word into song, yet he also commented on the way they sell their performance to the audience; the intangibles.

As another winter season of sport commences it is inevitable that I will receive opinion on the performance of our teams – both good and bad, objective and subjective.

Whilst I dare not stifle opinion I would make two requests:

1. Judge the big picture. Sport is so much more than skill development. It is the means to develop students physically, socially, emotionally and spiritually. These things are not easily measured and may take years to cultivate.
2. Judge growth. Whilst every team aims to win, one invariably loses. The best measure of success is growth. Recognise that this is a journey. Progress is not linear but with the right environment and encouragement the trend is upwards.

Farrer Wrap-Up

Farrer took back the Dick Hodgson Shield winning 11 fixtures to 7. TAS won both the senior and junior debates, drew both the tennis and the chess, won the clay target shooting, the senior football and our 15A rugby team triumphed 71-0.

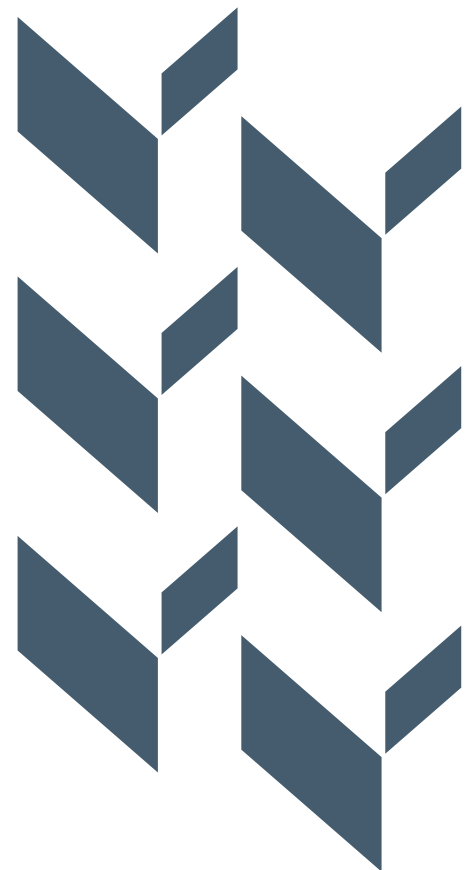
The afternoon also provided an opportunity for our netballers to host two games against NEGS, playing a year 9/10 team and a year 11/12 team. All games were played in good spirit and provided our teams a measure of where they are now.

Less than 24 hours later I spoke to members of our 16s rugby, following their two games against Sydney Grammar. They won one and lost one but the scores were not important; they were satisfied with their development as a team. I am satisfied that they understand how performance should be judged.

Mr Will Caldwell



Mr Will Caldwell



TAS v CRANBROOK 18-19 MAY

Friday 18 May

Cranbrook arrive 9:00pm

Accommodation:

Opens Rugby (x34) – Moyes (+ 2 staff)
16s Rugby (x32) – PE classrooms (+ 2 staff)
15s Rugby (x32) – Greenroom (+ 2 staff)
13s & 14s Rugby (x32+32) – Gymnasium/Sports Centre (+ 3 staff)

Saturday 19 May

Rugby Program:

TAS	Cranbrook	Venue	Time
TAS 1 st XV	1 st XV	Backfield	11:30am * (2 x 30 min halves)
TAS 2 nd XV	2 nd XV	Backfield	10:30am
TAS 16A	16A	Backfield	9:30am
TAS 16B	16B	Backfield	8:30am
TAS 15A	15A	Wakefield South	10:30am
TAS 15B	15B	Wakefield South	9:30am
TAS 14A	14A	Wakefield South	8:30am
TAS 14B	14B	Wakefield North	9:30am
TAS 13A	13A	Wakefield North	8:30am
TAS 13B	13B	Wakefield North	10:30am

* All other games 25 min/half

Change rooms for Cranbrook:

Teams playing on Backfield to use the McConville Centre.
 Teams playing on Wakefield to use The Sports Centre change rooms.

BREAKFAST: in TAS Dining Hall

7:00am 13s 14s and 16s
 7:45am 15s and Opens

LUNCH:

11:00am to 12:30pm walk through in TAS dining room

A canteen run by the TAS P & F will be selling hot food and drinks throughout the day at the McConville Centre (Including BBQ). All players and supporters are invited to attend the **after-match function** in the McConville Centre at the conclusion of the 1st XV fixture.

Embedded Technology Club Years 6 -12 - Expressions of Interest

TAS wants to design and build portable GPS units to be used by Cadets as a fail-safe option when they undertake demanding navigation exercises.

There is an opportunity for 10 students to be involved in designing and building the devices before Bivouac 2018.

If you are interested in electronics, microprocessors (Arduino etc), the Internet of Things (IoT), designing, laser cutting, soldering, building, coding, working in a team and problem solving, this club is for you!

The club will meet in the Library on Monday mornings 7:45 - 8:30 am.

Please email Mr Caldwell with your expression of interest and talk to Mr Scott if you want to know more about what will be involved.

CO-CURRICULAR REPORTS

It is a truth universally acknowledged that one of the biggest fears people hold is having to speaking in public. Even if they are reading from a well-prepared speech that has been rehearsed a number of times. So imagine having only 15 minutes to come up with an eight-minute speech to be delivered to an auditorium full of people you don't know.

Such was the situation for Owen Chandler who represented TAS magnificently on Friday night at the GPS/CAS Lawrence Campbell Oratory Competition, this year hosted by Trinity Grammar School. For almost 70 years the best speakers from GPS and CAS schools have taken part in this prestigious competition, whose past winners include Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, television personalities Adam Spencer, Andrew O'Keefe and The Chaser's Charles Firth, and various former State premiers and judges. Only once before in the past 20 years has TAS participated in this competition, in which speakers choose one of three topics and then have 15 minutes to prepare an eight minute speech with no research resources available. This year's topics, taken from literature and music, were 'On the sunny side of the street', 'It is a truth universally acknowledged', and 'Not with a bang but a whimper'. Owen chose the latter, encouraging the audience to imagine the end of the world and urged action against climate change. While Owen was unplaced his speech was well received by adjudicators and an appreciate audience. It was a wonderful opportunity for Owen and TAS to be involved after such a long hiatus, and we look forward to being part of the competition again in the future.



Owen Chandler

Mr Tim Hughes

Debating and Public Speaking Coordinator

Hockey

Well, what an amazing start to the 2018 hockey season. Congratulations to all TAS Hockey Club members for such a successful beginning. There have been numerous challenges across all teams but as a club we have risen above these. TAS has put forward an exceptionally committed club and most impressive has been the wonderful 'spirit' of unity and support. All teams can be justifiably proud of the exemplary manner they have played, regardless of either wins or losses. This celebration of just playing hockey for the enjoyment of playing hockey is outstanding.

Congratulations to our club members whom have already played significant roles in representative levels of hockey at the higher levels. Our club has provided multiple players for the following:

NSW U18 Boys State Champs

I can report five senior TAS hockey players Sam Behrend, Sam Wright, Sebastian Etheridge, Sterling George, and Toby Smith represented New England at The NSW State Champs at Bathurst this past weekend. This year the team participated in the Division 1 competition after winning Division 2 last year. The team was runner up in their pool. They faced Newcastle 1 (the overall winner) in the semi-final on Sunday and had a tough match. They were placed in the top four teams for the U18 Men's tournament. This was a great result for New England and coaches Paul Eichorn, Darby Chalmers and Manager Greg Smith. The TAS boys teamed up with other New England players from the City Hockey Club and Ex-Services Hockey Club. TAS should be extremely proud to have a number of students representing at this level.

NSW U18 Girls State Champs

Three senior TAS Hockey Players Lily Neilson, Tarnie Hillard (O'Connor Catholic College) and Georgina Watson represented Hockey New England at the NSW state championships at Newcastle earlier this month. This year the team participated in the Division 2 competition. The team was runner up in their pool. They faced Northern Suburbs and Beaches (the overall winner) in the semi final and unfortunately were outplayed on the day with a 5-0 scoreline. This was a great result for New England coach Greg Doolan and Manager Sue Lye. TAS should be extremely proud to have a number of students representing at this level. Following this tournament Lily Neilson was selected in the 2018/19 U18 AAP squad.

Australian U18 Men's and Women's Champs

March 2018 Launceston, Tasmania

Sam Wright represented NSW in the State U18 Men's side. Sam was also awarded a Basil Sellars Scholarship at the NSW Hockey Awards

Basil Sellars Challenge-Narellan

March 2018

A number of COD players from TAS participated in the Basil Sellars challenge and in the Goal-keeping clinic.

NSW Academy Games

April holidays

A number of TAS girls and boys played in the NIAS Hockey squads and competed at the 2018 Academy Games in Newcastle. This is a valuable training opportunity and pathway for representative hockey. Well done to Lily Neilson, Sebastian Ethridge and Sam Behrend.

CIS girls selection trials (open and U16) - Following the CIS tournament in March

Lily Neilson was selected for the CIS team and will head to Sydney to trial for the NSW All Schools 16 Years & Under team.

CIS Primary trials

Lennox Neilson, Thomas Dundon and Tom Ball trialled in Sydney for the CIS primary boys team on Monday. All three made it to the possible/ probable selection game and from all accounts were unlucky not to be picked. Thanks to Tania Ball, Sharon Dundon and Scott Neilson for accompanying the boys to Sydney.

Upcoming Representative teams that will include TAS Hockey players

- CIS Open and U16 Boys selection
- U15 Girls and Boys State Champs
- U13 State Champs
- Umpiring clinics

We look forward to a truly rewarding season of hockey.

Mrs Tania Ball and Mr Mike Ball

Co MIC's TAS Hockey

FROM THE CREATIVE ARTS COORDINATOR

MR ANDREW O'CONNELL

Tonight we have the professional touring production *The Orchid and the Crow* in the Hoskins Centre at 8pm to wow audiences with intimate storytelling, original songs and an uplifting and comedic story about battling cancer and coming out the other side. For students in Years 9 - 12 and their parents it promises to be an amazing night out with a performer who has received international recognition. As an added incentive all TAS students who buy their tickets at the door will get them for just \$15. But if you want to secure your seats early go to hoskins.as.edu.au and visit the event page.

Our first working bee for *Shrek the Musical JR.* is on this Saturday from 10am. We will be focusing on costumes and props and parents, students and friends of the show are all invited to come help out. If you have some sewing skills or are handy with craft supplies we'd love your help as we need a lot of colourful and elaborate costumes and props for all our fairytale folk.

Preparations for the NSW Shakespeare Carnival are ongoing, TAS Art Attack! is on every Monday and Thursday afternoons 3:30pm - 5pm, both the Middle School and Senior School Technical Production Clubs have been busy Thursday lunch times in the Hoskins Centre with Mr Cornford and are always welcoming new members, and Ms Edmonds will be emailing students about the REC Ya Shorts Youth Film Festival on Tuesday 5 June. And of course we cannot forget that the Armidale Eisteddfod is now in full swing and for all our singers, instrumentalists, composers, speakers or performers (and not forgetting TAS Staff and peripatetic teachers) I wish you all the very best as you showcase your hard work and dedication.

And finally, a plug for the fabulous Mrs Baumgartner who will be performing with her band at the Welder's Dog tomorrow night kicking off at 7.30pm. Having studied at ANU Jazz School in the 90s, and representing Australia in the Monterey Jazz Festival in 1998, Mrs B is one of Armidale's finest jazz singers and for parents it would be a great opportunity to enjoy the phenomenal talent that our students benefit from every day in the classroom.

Mr Andrew O'Connell



The
Orchid

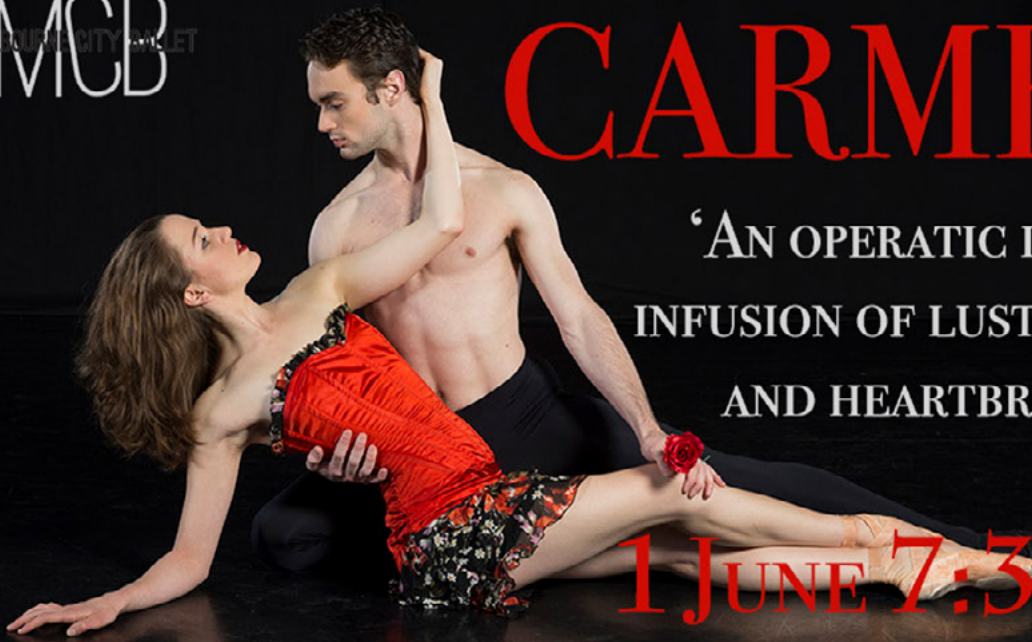


and
the
Crow
16 May

MELBOURNE CITY THEATRE
MCD

CARMEN

‘AN OPERATIC DANCE
INFUSION OF LUST, POWER
AND HEARTBREAK’



1 JUNE 7:30PM

12 JUNE
7:30PM



MELBOURNE
INTERNATIONAL
COMEDY
FESTIVAL
ROADSHOW
COMEDYFESTIVAL.COM.AU

Farrer

Following a normal and peaceful lunch last Friday students from Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School and NEGS fed into our grounds to spend the late afternoon and early evening at TAS. Football, Rugby, Netball, Chess, Shooting teams, (you name it and there's every likelihood there was a team playing or doing it) jockeyed simultaneously for various audiences of TAS students and parents. While I was involved in debating commitments in Cash Building for the first part of the afternoon, I was happy to 'get out and about' to see so many of the activities afterwards. Overseen and ably organized by Mr Will Caldwell and Mrs Rachael Edmonds, in particular, these kinds of activities are, again, a great recommendation of the School: if you look around for it ('it' translates as just about anything you choose in relation to an activity) you're pretty sure to find it here at TAS.

I was directly involved in senior debating and the team members, despite protestations to the contrary, appeared very skilled in terms of technique and delivery. Ms Hannah Lo adjudicated the Junior debate and she has reported that students were impressive with rebuttals and another observation was that team members distinguished themselves in terms of manner - voice modulation, eye contact, use of palm cards. In their combination, these points augur well for debating fixtures and commitments later in the year.

'Time flies'

We're close to the half term mark – already. We've only six weeks remaining and there's another, longer break on the horizon. But there's much to be done before we reach it. As well you know, there's a battery of exams. You also know that our Middle School students are receiving their major Study Schedules. What you need to know is that these things are little more than unappealing adornments, in the first instance, and, ultimately, millstones unless or until they are opened and used! Boarders are easy to help as boarding and teaching staff are in the habit of referring everyone to their use on a regular basis. Parents of day students need to be aware that the schedules are 'out' this week and I ask that you speak to your children about them and ask also how 'best' they are being 'managed' over the next fortnight. I will stress again, at our next Town Meeting Assembly on Monday, the wisdom of seeking clarification of any issue that causes concern

In this amazingly (on a good day; frighteningly, on a stressful one) competitive world, we can ill afford a situation where boys and girls 'run blind' into an exam room. In a sense, no study renders an exam of little use, not to mention a waste of time. Surely, some of the major functions of an exam result are to indicate to staff and students the effectiveness of a study program as well as (being) a highlighter of areas of 'difficulty'. Simply, we need to know how students are faring academically: all students should be given the opportunity to know what they need to do in order to fare better in the future. Success does not exclusively refer to a mark or a grade, either – this is product – only. Process, I believe, is as important and, in some situations, it can be seen to be more important.



Mr Mark Harrison

As well as pinpointing areas of expertise, of weakness, of the effectiveness of a study regime, an exam performance gives everyone a reasonably accurate measure of how our Middle School people perform under time conditions. Regardless of our line of work, we adults all have time frames to work within and deadlines to meet. A School exam experience is one that allows students to find out for themselves not only how they are managing their work, but also begins to equip them with the skills necessary to perform as well as they are able to in the future – at times when exam results can expand or limit future tertiary or job prospects.

We need your assistance here. If, in the lead up to the exam week, your children express concern, feel uncomfortable or make comments on issues that we should be aware of, please let us know. Similarly, as implied by my comments about process, this advice applies to the post exam reactions and experience(s).

Mr Mark Harrison
Middle School

Out and About....

It has been very busy in Junior School, with significant events taking up much of our time and focus across the board. With the Mother's Day celebrations, GRIP Leadership Course, NAPLAN and Eisteddfod this week, I spoke with all our students recently about being aware of your surrounds and the resultant expectations for behaviour and the importance of carrying oneself with pride and poise, especially when in public.

I am very pleased to report that our staff have been more than impressed with the way our students have been carrying themselves of late. Last Friday, hosting such a large gathering for Mother's Day was simply fantastic. I was pleased that so many were able to enjoy the fruits of the efforts of our children and their teachers.



Mr Ian Lloyd



Year 5 were all keen to serve at the Mother's Day luncheon...



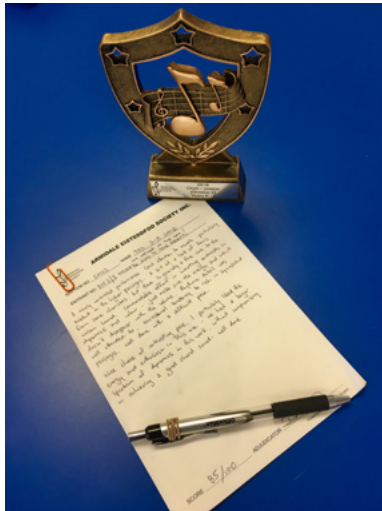
Nothing better than showing how much we love those who care for us...

Likewise, I have had some very positive reports as a result of our participation in the GRIP Leadership course and our Eisteddfod performances. Our choirs performed exceptionally well but it was the behaviour and maturity of our students as an audience that really impressed. I am also very pleased that so many of our students have chosen to enter individual events soon and wish them all well.

Lastly, next week another group of Year 5 students will travel to Sydney and participate in the Knox Grammar da Vinci Decathlon. I congratulate the following on their selection and look forward to accompanying them on their trip to Sydney. The team is
 Millie Coupland
 Flinders Ward
 Austin Pease
 Nicholas Thomas
 Ty Schalk-O'Brien
 Sam Strelitz
 Iles Baker
 and Theo Munsie



The TAS 3 - 5 Choir were outstanding in winning their Division at the recent Eisteddfod



LOOKING AHEAD

TERM 2

NE Sings - Sunday 21 October, 2018

As I have written previously, every two years, The New England Conservatorium of Music hosts a wonderful event called New England Sings. It is a mass choral performance which features over 800 students from our local schools. This year's highly awarded event will have two works commissioned by the leading Australian composers Dan Walker and Felix Reibel and both will be attending workshops throughout leading up to the event. The New England Sings Concert is held on the first weekend of Term 4 and as a School, we are committed with our Year 3 - 5 choir. While final details are yet to be advertised, please make sure you note this weekend in your diaries.

WEEK 3

Tue 15 May
Wed 16 May

Thurs 17 May

Fri 18 May

NAPLAN Language Conventions & Writing
 No Assembly
 NAPLAN Reading
 NAPLAN Numeracy
 Life Education Van
 Life Education Van
 NCIS Cross Country, Ballina

WEEK 4

Wed 23 May

Thur 24 May

Fri 25 May

Kindergarten Assembly – Hoskins Centre 2.45pm
 Camp Quality Puppet Show 9.00
 da Vinci Decathlon, Knox Grammar School
 PSSA Cross Country

WEEK 5

Tue 29 May
Wed 30 May

ICAS Science Exam
 Year 5 Assembly – Hoskins Centre 2.45pm

WEEK 6

Wed 6 June
Fri 8 June

Year 2 Assembly – Hoskins Centre 2.45pm
 Staff Day

GRIP Leadership Conference - Wednesday 9 May Armidale Ex-Services Club



L to R: Sam Strelitz, Ty Schalk-O'Brien, Paige Sutton, Millie Coupland, Flinders Ward and Lachlan Litchfield

Ty Schalk-O'Brien, Lachlan Litchfield, Millie Coupland, Flinders Ward, Paige Sutton and Sam Strelitz accompanied Mr Portell to the annual GRIP Leadership Conference for Primary Age Leaders held at the Armidale Ex-Services Club on Wednesday 9 May.

Looking for inspirational ways to demonstrate that leadership is an action, not a position, our TAS Junior School House Leaders engaged with students from across the New England and North West in a range of seminars and collaborative activities. The aim of the conference was to equip students with practical strategies to make transformative change, whilst considering the needs of the student body and the effectiveness of leadership initiatives.

One important message, throughout the conference, was the ability of all students to show elements of leadership based on the positive choices they make and the integrity they show when dealing with their peers and teachers. These ideas marry beautifully with many of our PYP Learner Profile Attributes, such as being Principled, Caring, Open-minded and capable Communicators.

Junior School Clubs at TAS

I have included a list of Clubs and Activities that are available to our students below. We are always happy for new students to join in and if you need further information, please contact us at School. There are some costs involved and limits do apply to some clubs. Please contact Junior School Reception if you have any queries or wish to register your child.

Tuesday

Chess Club 7.45 am
TAS Trebles 8.00 am
Drama Club 3.45 – 4.45 pm
Pottery Club 4.00 – 5.00 pm

Wednesday

Coding Club 8.00 am
FanTAStics 8.00 am
Dance Club 12.25 – 1.10 pm

NB. Dance club will not be held on 23 May

Thursday

Engineering Club 8.00 am
Martial Arts 3.45 – 4.45 pm
School Spirit Award Recipients – Week 1

Congratulations to the following students for receiving School Spirit Awards at last week's assembly:

Millie Coupland, Henry Taylor, Lucie Stephen, Ruby Ogilvie, Mila Downes, Peter Thompson, Hugo Broun, Layan Alghamdi and Mosie Wright.

Mr Ian Lloyd

Head of Junior School



Happy Birthday

Lateen Alghamdi, Archie Douglas-Menzies and Lucy Taylor all celebrate their birthdays this week so Happy Birthday from Junior School.

Who would have thought that learning could be so much fun that students request not to head outside for Recess play? Where students can spend a whole day designing experiments to test force? That 5 year olds can independently complete a GRASPS assessment task?

It is teaching moments like the above, where students are fully engaged in their learning, that help us understand how inquiry helps 'power up' learning. This has a profound impact on the way teachers think about and interact with students, the nature of the tasks we design, how we chose to use our time and how we assess learning.

The Junior School building was alive and buzzing last week as all students were completing the final stages of their second units of inquiry. Students were motivated to learn as they had a genuine interest or were curious about the subject or problem they were trying to solve. In the final week of a Unit of Inquiry students are drawing conclusions and taking investigations further; inquiry skills are being tested. Students become involved in locating, gathering and critiquing information using an increasing number of digital tools, therefore enhancing digital literacy skills.

"We need a curriculum of big questions... We need a pedagogy free from fear and focused on the magic of children's innate quest for information and understanding." Sugata Mitra, 2013

Mrs Veronica Waters
PYP Coordinator



Inquiry into forces



Exploration of halves in Kindergarten



Ted Chick conducted an experiment to test if dirty water could be made clean



Junior Netball

The TAS girls joined with the Uralla Kitty Cats for the weekend's game. After some last-minute alterations to quite a summer inclined inform, the girls were ready to come out and play! The girls mixed in well with their new teammates and supported one another through learning different positions. Although the team were not victorious this time, they are keen to work on their shooting to strive for a win next time. Well done Sophia White and Paige Sutton for representing our school so well in the community.

TAS Blue U/7 Football Team

In unkind conditions, TAS Blue put in another strong performance on Saturday with many of the skills developed at training last week being aptly transferred onto the playing field. Once again, TAS Blue's unselfish style of play was evident from the start with all players freely sharing the re-starts and passing the ball.

Layla Abu Assab was once again strong in attack with her positional play a highlight. Layla was fortunate to be given plenty of space in attack by the deft midfield passing of Pippi Goudge, George Drain, Rebecca Billingsley and Cecilia Price. Pippi, George, Rebecca and Cecilia are to be commended on their positive communication and willingness in both attack and defend. Mila Nexo was a constant threat on the edge and is to be praised for her ability to turn defence into attack. William Cooper-Fillios and Adrian Zhang nullified many of the oppositions attacking raids with astute tackling and kicking from the back.

I am extremely proud of the sportsmanship and effort shown on Saturday and am looking forward to further developing the skill levels of all players over the coming weeks.

Mr David Drain
TAS TALKS | 21

Under 8s Football

Building on an impressive performance last week, TAS hit the field full of confidence against the Armidale City Panthers. Early attacking play was rewarded with a number of successful shots on goal, with Lucy Taylor and Xavier Stephen leading the charge. The second half was a different story, as a steadily growing headwind pushed TAS back on to the defensive. Arthur White bravely withstood the pressure in goal and was able to minimise the damage on the scoreboard. Reema Al Malki provided some much needed 'fresh legs' (and oranges) in the second half. Thanks to all the parents who withstood the icy conditions to support and encourage the team.

Mr Thomas Powell

Under 10's Football – TAS BLUE

Last week's game was another great success for the TAS BLUES! We narrowly won the game against the DK Warriors by one point, with the final score being 5-4 to TAS.

William Ogilvie scored 1 goal, Charlie Ryan scored 1 goal, Lachie Hunter scored 1 goal, Oliver Gouge scored 1 goal and Mohammed Almokhtar scored the last goal of the game. Mohammed was goalie for the first half and he saved many attempts. Andy Hardin volunteered to play goalie second half and although he may not have saved quite as many he showed great commitment to the position. At the end of the day, everyone contributed greatly to the success of the game. One thing that I think we need to work on is playing and sticking to our positions a little better. Everyone had fun, despite the fact it was very cold and that we could almost see small, icy drops in the air.

Mr William Ogilvie

U9s Football

On Saturday the boys faced their nemesis team from last year and the excitement was palpable. Hugo Broun, Joe Fenwicke and Sam Ford were again very strong on the attack with four goals between them. Andrew Alkhoury and Josiah Baumgartner were in goal and both made some fantastic saves against some strong strikes. MJ Blanch, Tommy Blanch, Marcus Robb and Cormac Downes were active in the centre positions with Peter Thompson, Harry Brownlie and Andi Li strong in defence. With a solid win over the best team from last year, the boys are eagerly looking forward to the challenge of their next few matches.

Mr Stephen Thompson



New England Conservatorium of Music



JUNIOR ORCHESTRA WORKSHOP Wed 4 & Thurs 5 July 2018

The Workshop is open to students in Years 3-9 who can read music and have at least 12 months experience playing one of the following instruments:

Violin, viola, cello, double bass, harp

Trumpet, trombone, French horn, tuba

Flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone

Orchestral percussion (pianists may apply)

Book Online: www.trybooking.com/VQTI

For more information:

📶 Web: www.necom.org.au

☎ Tel: 02 6788 2135 ✉ Email: admin@necom.org.au

music speaks volumes



COMMUNITY NEWS

Pottery Classes

Dear Pottery Families,
I trust that you have all enjoyed a nice break and are ready to have lots of fun making pots with us this term. I have worked out some nifty projects that will be great to make and very useful in day to day life. I have really enjoyed making them myself so I am sure the students will too.

The details of the classes are as follows.

Where: Classes are held in Art Room 1 of the Hoskins Centre at TAS. This is the ground floor room on the left as you enter.

Who and When: Years K to 4 are on Tuesdays from 4-5 pm
Years 5 and up are on Thursdays from 4-5 pm

These age divisions are a guide only. If you need your child to come on a different day than these guidelines, it is not a problem. Just talk to me about it.

Also, please note that children are welcome to arrive straight after school. We have great fun setting up for the class together.

Commencement:

Tuesday 8 May
Thursday 10 May

Each group will have six lessons, then one week off, then a party and exhibition.

Cost: The cost is \$150. This includes Instruction, materials, and firing of the work.

To enrol please contact me via email (weemalpot@yahoo.com.au) or telephone (6772 5371) . When enrolling ,please include your child's name, age and your contact phone number.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Also, if your child came to Term 1 but is not coming for Term 2, I would love to know, so I can make their space available to another child that may wish to come.

Kind regards,
Rick Hatch

