Cadet Leadership Courses

The 2014 leadership training for junior and senior cadet will be held from 19 to 23 February and the time to sign up is now. Whilst we might consider cadet leadership training as a usual part of the TAS calendar, I think it important to note that such opportunities are rare in schools. The chance to be formally trained over an extended period of time in how to lead and take responsibility for others is something quite special. Whilst student leadership positions exist in most schools, formal leadership training followed by appointment to positions of genuine responsibility for others in the field is not common and it is what distinguishes our cadet program from other outdoor education arrangements.

I expect to see large numbers of cadets volunteering for the junior and senior leadership courses again this year and for those who are still considering whether to be involved or not, I recommend the courses as one of those opportunities at TAS that is not to be missed.

Australian Rugby Union Junior Gold Program

Last weekend TAS hosted the first Northern Inland Junior Gold rugby camp for 2014. For the benefit of those unfamiliar with this program, the Junior Gold Cup is a national long-term talent development program and competition for 15 and 17 year age groups run under the direction of the Australian Rugby Union. Twenty-four teams operate across Australia and TAS has the privilege of being home to the Northern Inland teams and partnering with the ARU Junior Gold Program. The benefits to our aspiring rugby players are substantial, including access to fulltime ARU Elite Programs coaching staff, strength and conditioning programs, national competition involvement and exposure to talent scouts. I was very pleased to see 15 TAS boys participating across the two age groups and I offer special thanks to Jamie Moore for his leadership of our involvement and partnership with the ARU.

Coast Weekend

This weekend TAS students will be spread along the coast from Nambucca Heads to Woolgoolga as our boarding houses and a good number of senior day boys head off for our annual coast weekend. This is a deliberately social time and that is what distinguishes it from every other school trip that these boys will take through the year. The lack of competition, training or schoolwork does not mean the weekend is any less important than other excursions though. The chance to establish relationships and routines whilst away is especially important for our boarding houses and those moving into a new environment this year. I have often heard it said that coast weekend sets the tone for the year and I look forward to seeing that happening in positive fashion this weekend.

MOTHER & SON WEEKEND

MARTIN LEVINS

In its second year, our Year 11 Mother-son weekend will be held at Nymboida Canoe Centre, about two hours on the Grafton Road from Ebor, on February 15-16.

The main thrust of our time together is to relax and enjoy one another’s company in an environment devoid of the trappings of modern life. You’ll be led through some interesting activities to get to know one another better—essentially conversation starters, and there’ll be more input from mums that have already seen their boy through this time, and others that have a unique perspective on this age group.

It’s plain and simple: time together and an opportunity to talk—something year 11 guys find difficult occasionally (noticed that?)

Check it out at teams.as.edu.au/groups/secretmums/
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Week 2

Wednesday 5 February
6.30pm Chapel Service

Thursday 6 February
Middle & Senior Family photos
4.00pm all Houses depart for the coast

Saturday 8 February
House Coast Weekend

Sunday 9 February
House Coast Weekend

Week 3

Monday 10 February
Junior School & Family Photos (catch up day)
200M IM Championships

Tuesday 11 February
Junior School Swimming Championships
HSC Drama Excursion departs for Sydney

Wednesday 12 February
6.30pm Chapel Service

Thursday 13 February
5.30-7.30pm Middle School Parent Information Evening and Welcome BBQ
7.45pm 200M Freestyle Events and War Cry Competition at Sportscentre

Friday 14 February
Middle/Senior School Swimming Championships

Saturday 15 February
Year 11 Mother & Son Weekend - Canoe Centre Nymboida

Sunday 16 February
Year 11 Mother & Son Weekend - concludes

Week 4

Tuesday 18 February
8.45 - 12.00 noon Brent Sanders
Motivational Speaker (all Year 11)
Board Meetings

Wednesday 19 February
6.30pm Chapel Service
P&F AGM

Thursday 20 February
Cadet Leadership Course begins

Friday 21 February
Cadet Leadership Course

Saturday 22 February
Cadet Leadership Course

Sunday 23 February
Cadet Leadership Course concludes

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION

Applications are currently open for Academic Scholarships in 2015 for students who will be entering Years 6 to 11 in 2015. Applicants are required to sit the Academic Assessment Services Scholarship Examination at TAS on Monday 24 February, 2014.

Applications are to be completed on line and close on Friday 14 February, 2014.

Please go to http://teams.as.edu.au/groups/enrolments/wiki/8484e/Academic_Scholarships.html and make your application.

The application fee to sit the Scholarship Examination is $90 per student, regardless of whether they are already enrolled at the School, or not.
The uninitiated spread it with abandon - and then gasp with horror – (unless you’re Mr Levins), but to those who have grown up with it, Vegemite on toast tastes like home.

A summer staple that cuts across race, religion, sex, style and social status, the almighty thong is one of the world's great levelers, according to one Sun-Herald contributor.

Today we consume almost 23 million jars of Vegemite a year and the dark spread is found in one out of every three sandwiches eaten. And thongs are found not just on the beach to save us from scorched soles, but in Olympic games opening ceremonies, on the feet of brides, on cat walks, and nestled below the hemline of TAS tracksuits everywhere.

Growing through the changes that new circumstances present, is often a challenge. The old, well-known, well-worn patterns and pathways of our lives are sometimes preferable even if they have not really worked well in terms of bringing about a rich, full and meaningful life. We become creatures of habit, of pattern, preferring the predictable to the challenges of adaptation that new circumstances provide.

Adaptation is not necessarily a welcome experience – we resist, protest, get angry, feel sorry for ourselves, demand that life return to its previous known shape. Yet becoming fully human, becoming all we are capable of becoming, involves tapping into the creative experience of adaptation, making room for things that have altered in our lives and about which we can do little or nothing. Adaptation is about moving beyond first reactions of resistance towards the processes of developing a creative and positive response to things as they now are. Both experiences are needed – an honest acceptance and engagement with the losses brought about by the changed circumstances and then a movement towards creative adaptation. This involves the imagination, working out our priorities and values, becoming open to various possibilities, embracing the present and future, making room for the past.

Life events can be unpredictable and this year there will be many who are faced with this experience of something cutting across the anticipated or assumed trajectory of life. At these times it can be useful to process the dual processes of reaction and adaptation with someone who can listen patiently and accurately, recognise the transitional elements involved and support us while we do the hard yards of developing a creative response.

These are our Australian icons – Vegemite, thongs, Holdens? and meat pies. We don't like it when people attempt to claim what is ours, such as the ridiculous suggestion that the Kiwis invented the thong – outrageous. Or when multinationals buy the brand of our most beloved national symbols. It's just not right, it upsets us, we made them, designed them, maybe pinched them or plagiarized them – but they are our plagiarisms – not theirs. We become jealous for them, and rightly so.

As we consider our school motto, “without God nothing”, we must consider how God views this. He designed us, made us, invested in us – in creation and in salvation. As His creation he is devoted to us, He is jealous for us, for without Him we would not have existed. He does not like it when we sell our belonging elsewhere, when we tie our allegiance to another.

He wants us to join with the Psalmist in praise of Him who made us, not to worship that which He has made.
**CADET LEADERSHIP COURSE**

**TREVOR THATCHER**

Cadet Leadership Course 19 - 23 February, 2014

Want to be a leader? Need a challenge?

The annual TAS leadership course is to be run for cadets from Year 9 and up.

The course runs from Wednesday afternoon the 19th February through to Sunday 23rd February (Week 4).

The first 2 days will be run at the Army Reserve barracks at UNE, followed by 2 days in the bush.

If you would like to take up the challenge, please write your name down on the list in the cadet training office (or see Sergeant Ball), or otherwise email me and I will place you on the list.

We plan to have an information session at lunchtime next Tuesday 4th February in S0-1 at 1.30pm.

Cost of the course is approximately $120, covering rations and equipment.

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**STUDY TOUR TO JAPAN**

There are still a few vacancies available to participate on the 15 day Japan/China Study Tour in September. This is the second trip to Japan after the highly successful visit two years ago. We will be visiting Beijing, Tokyo, Kyoto, Hiroshima, Kagoshima and our exchange school at Meitoku. The trip is open to Years 9, 10 and 11 Japanese and HSIE students.

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 or David Toakley at dtoakley@as.edu.au for more details.

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**TUTORING AND HOMEWORK CENTRE**

**TAS Mathematics and English/Essay Subjects Tutoring and Homework Centre, Term 1, 2014**

**At a glance**

- Operates four afternoons a week in Cash Block (Maths Block) from 3.45 to 5.30pm (Mon to Thurs) commencing in Term 1 Week 2
- Two sessions each afternoon - Year 6 to 8 (3.45 to 4.30pm) and Year 9 to 11 (4.30 to 5.30pm)
- Delicious afternoon tea provided including icy poles in summer
- Sessions operate with maximum of six students per tutor
- Diagnostic tests and graded worksheets in all basic skills with Extension opportunities for able students
- $200 a term for two sessions a week, or $120 a term for 1 session a week, or $15 a casual session
- Students can mix and match - they do a session of Maths and one of English each week

Enquiries and bookings
Gaye Piper: gpiper1@as.edu.au
or 0410 924 191

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**CLOTHING SHOP**

**VIV TEARLE**

SALE PRICES FOR ONE DAY ONLY

FRIDAY 14 FEBRUARY 9AM - 5PM

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**GENERAL NOTICES**

**How many generations?**

In celebration of the school's 120th year, the Development Office is keen to find out those students currently enrolled at TAS who have direct family links to boys or staff who were at TAS in its very first year, 1894

We are aware of several, but don't want to miss anyone! Please send any information (including the names of the relevant ancestor and how the student is connected) to Tim Hughes at thughes@as.edu.au. Thanks.
The Term has started very busily for all our boys. Once again I encourage you to contact the following staff should you have any questions about your chosen area of interest. All Clubs information will be arriving late next week so keep a look out as there are a diverse range of opportunities for boys to pursue.

A reminder that the following people are your first point of contact for most Co-Curricular related questions.

**Tennis** - Mr Luke Polson: lpolson@as.edu.au

**Cricket** - Mr Jim Pinnington: jpinning@as.edu.au

**Strength & Conditioning/Weights** - Mr Jamie Moore: jmoore@as.edu.au

**Basketball** - Ms Julie Flanagan: jflanagan@as.edu.au

**Hockey** - Mr Alex Portell: aportell@as.edu.au

**Triathlon** - Mr Jim Pennington: jpenning@as.edu.au

**Kayaking** - Mr Christian Nexo: cnexo@as.edu.au

**Horse Sports** - Ms Jo Benham: jbenham@as.edu.au

**Waterpolo** - Miss Amanda Robins: arobins@as.edu.au

**Shooting** - Mr Trevor Thatcher: tthatche@as.edu.au

**Rugby Union** - Mr William Caldwell: wcaldwel@as.edu.au

**Rowing** - Mr William Caldwell: wcaldwel@as.edu.au

**Football** - Mr Luke Polson: lpolson@as.edu.au

**Music** - Mrs Sarah Broadbent: sbroadbe@as.edu.au

**Drama** - Ms Emma Buzo: ebuzo@as.edu.au

**Swimming Carnival Week 3**

The Swimming Carnival events begin on Monday night (200IM) and then continues on Thursday evening and all day Friday of Week 3. It provides an opportunity for our boys to commit to their peers with highlights including the war cry night as a part of the 200m Freestyle events on Thursday night and in the relays. Also, all boys are encouraged to enjoy the challenge of racing in a minimum of 3 events during the Championships remembering that it is once again about having the courage to ‘put yourself out there.’

I look forward to celebrating with you the efforts of all our young men in their many endeavours this year, although I encourage you to join us on the Thursday night where the true spirit and culture of our house system comes to life. All information concerning the swimming carnival can be found on our swimming page:

http://teams.as.edu.au/groups/swimming/

**Clemson Cup Middle School Debating**

A highlight for TAS Speakers this Term will be the continuation of the Clemson Cup and in Week 4 our houses will nominate teams to compete in the debating competition. I encourage all boys to pursue these opportunities to both represent their house and to speak in public, a challenge for many. In exciting news Mr Luke Polson (lpolson@as.edu.au) will be assisting our leaders of TAS Speakers in overseeing this exciting opportunity.

**Athletics Success**

Congratulations to Nic Ward and Sam Meehan and who went to the Regional Athletics Championships in Lismore on the weekend. Nic achieved three silver medals in Shot Put, Discus and Javelin and Sam gained a silver in the 800m and a bronze in the high jump. Both boys will now proceed through to the state championships. We wish them the best of luck as they head to Sydney in late March.

**TAS Beginner Band**

Last year there was information disseminated about the opportunity to join the TAS Beginner Band. As we are now seeking a new Director of Music after the departure of Mr Nik Glass, the Beginner Band structure will not be known until our new Director of Music arrives. Therefore, the program will not be commencing until Term 2. We look forward to informing you of the make up of this exciting new ensemble early next Term.

**Rowing:** “The whole is greater than the sum of the parts”.

The TAS rowing team attended two 4 day camps during the summer holidays – one at Grafton and one at The Southport School. All individuals are progressing nicely as they prepare for the 2014 Head of the River on 15 March. What is most encouraging, however, is the way these individuals combine as a team.
At the Head of the Clarence Regatta at Grafton in early December, all three crews raced in a four. They acquitted themselves admirably with the 1st IV placing third in the men’s novice four. The experience was invaluable and provided a useful benchmark.

In the last week of the holidays the team travelled to Southport as guests of The Southport School, to continue their training and be subject to an intensive selection process. Each pair was judged on their performance over five races. The objective was to gain a clear indication of who moves the boat fastest.

The races were thrilling and the results extremely close with only 1 second separating our third pair and our sixth pair. Whilst the selections are less conclusive, it augurs well for intense competition in the remaining weeks.

The team is most grateful to Tim Wheaton and Jason Lincoln who provided invaluable support at each of the camps and to Harriet Bawden for her continued commitment to coaching at TAS. With six weeks until the Head of the River the boys are making every stroke count – and enjoying the ride!

Will Caldwell
MIC - Rowing

Pottery for Children

Rick and Suzanne Hatch are again offering after-school classes in clay work. The goal of our teaching is for the children to have fun while development imagination, hand skills and the ability to solve problems with creative flair.

Where: Classes are held in Art Room 1
Hoskins Centre, TAS

Who: Year Kind to Year 3

When: Tuesdays 4pm - 5pm

Who: Year 4 - 7

When: Thursdays 4pm - 5pm

Children may arrive anytime after 3:20pm. We have 6 lessons, then a party and exhibition.

Commencement:

K - 3 Tuesday February 11 to Tuesday 18 March (Exhibition on April 1)

4 - 7 Thursday February 13 to Thursday March 20 (Exhibition on April 13)

Cost: $140 including all materials and firing of work

Enrolment: via email to weemalapot@yahoo.com.au
via phone 6772 5371

Please include child’s name and age and your name and phone number in email. I will respond promptly. Rick Hatch

Triathlon

Round 6 of the Armidale Triathlon Series was held last weekend with a very strong TAS contingent competing. In the short course, Brent Rees led the TAS team home with a wonderful 2nd place finish, closely followed by Matthew Haydon in 6th and young Joshua Jones 7th. Sam King displayed great speed throughout the bike leg, with Hamish Moore and Brough Whibley excelling during the run. In the Junior Race, two new TAS students participating with aplomb. PJ Woodburn and Lucas Cotterell both racing for the first time, displayed tremendous stamina and determination to finish strongly and should be justifiably proud of their achievements.

James Pennington
Our TAS Ensembles started rehearsing this week and the times are listed below. Any student that is interested in playing or singing in a TAS Ensemble should come down and visit the Music Centre. Mrs Broadbent is in the Music Office and the Music Teachers - Mr Finco, Mrs Butcher and Mr Tracy are happy to chat with students about joining one of the ensembles. It is also a great way to make new friends and improve on your instrument.

INSTRUMENTAL TUITION AND HIRE

Don’t forget that all instrumental tuition has commenced again. If you are not sure of your tuition time please contact your tutor.

If you wish to cease lessons this term you should already have notified your tutor but better get on to that straight away to avoid another term’s fees. Vocal and Instrumental Tuition Enrolment Forms are available on the TAS Website or by emailing Mrs Broadbent on sbroadbe@as.edu.au

TAS Music Centre also hire out instruments. An Instrument Hire Bond of $55 is payable in the first term of hire, which is refundable upon return of the instrument. Regular termly hire is $55 per term for all our instruments.

Students please ensure you bring your instruments to every lesson. Guitarists need to bring guitars every time and if you are learning electric guitar you need your own lead and amplifier. Feel free to leave them in the safe storage area of the Music Centre if you are a boarder and when you are not using them but make sure they are clearly labelled.

Many thanks
Mrs Butcher, Mr Finco, Mr Tracy and Mrs Broadbent

### TAS INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES

#### Rehearsal Times 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENSEMBLE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>CONDUCTOR</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAS Trebles</td>
<td>8.00 – 8.40am</td>
<td>Mrs Butcher</td>
<td>Music Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAS Big Band</td>
<td>3.45 – 5.00pm</td>
<td>Mr Finco</td>
<td>Music Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAS Drum Corp</td>
<td>3.45 – 5.00pm</td>
<td>Mr Craigie</td>
<td>Music/McConville</td>
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<td>TAS Senior Jazz</td>
<td>5:00 – 6:00pm</td>
<td>Mr Dunham</td>
<td>Music Centre</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAS Singers</td>
<td>7:45 – 8.30am</td>
<td>Mr Oxley/Mr Finco</td>
<td>Music Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAS Guitar Band</td>
<td>1:20 – 2:00pm</td>
<td>Mrs Butcher</td>
<td>Music Centre</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAS Wind Ensemble</td>
<td>7:40 – 8.40am</td>
<td>Mr Woodhouse</td>
<td>Music Centre</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAS Chapel Choir</td>
<td>3:45 – 5.00pm</td>
<td>Mr Oxley/Ms Rolfe</td>
<td>TAS Chapel</td>
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**BOARDERS PRACTICE COMMENCED THIS WEEK FOR ALL VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL STUDENTS AT TAS! BOARDERS’ PRACTICE 2014**

The TAS Music Centre is open to TAS Boarders:

Monday 6.30 – 8.00pm
Tuesday 6.30 – 8.00pm
Thursday 6.30 – 8.00pm

See the Boarders’ Practice Supervisor to sign the roll when you arrive for your session.

The Supervisor can assist you with practice and will help you stay on task.

You are welcome to stay for a short or long session - up to three times a week.

Everyone is welcome!
Exchange

Welcome to our two Year 10 visitors for Term 1, William Cooper (Tyrrell from Gordonstoun School in Scotland and Nik Frere (Croft) from Salem in Germany. Both seem to have settled in well and I’m sure would always appreciate an opportunity to see a little more of our region – so, if you would like to invite either boys out for a weekend, please contact their Housemaster to organise.

We have five Year 10 students away on exchange this term and have all immersed themselves into their new schools (some since early January). They are:
Harry Maxwell (Stanford Lake College, South Africa); Ollie Mayhew-Sanders, Stanstead College, Canada; Jack Tizzard, Lower Canada College, Quebec; Isaac Scherer, Gordonstoun, Scotland and Jonathan Frogley, Woodridge College, South Africa.

Young Round Square Conference

Mr Luke Polson and Mrs Anna Gayner will be travelling with the following boys to Kings College, Auckland for the Young Round Square Conference in the April holidays. They will be on a 3 day tour of the upper north island prior to attending the conference 21 to 26 April, 2014. The students are very much looking forward to commemorating Anzac Day with our New Zealand friends, and others.

The boys are:
* Henry O’Neil
* Jack Waters
* Tom Deshon
* Jason O’Keefe
* Joshua Danke
* Alistair Le Surf

International Round Square Conference

This year the International RS Conference will be hosted by The Kings Academy, Jordan. This is a very exciting opportunity for 6 Year 11 students and we are now calling for applications to attend this conference and applications close 7 March. The final cost is not yet available but applications will be accepted pending confirmation of cost. This will also include a pre-conference tour which is not yet finalized but will be in the vicinity, possibly Turkey, including a cultural flavor and Gallipoli war history.

For further information, please see the conference website or see Mr Buntine or Mrs Barnier for an application form.
http://www.kingsacademy.edu.jo/rsic-2014/conference-details
The dust begins to settle

Well, Week 1 is ‘done’ and, considering this is a term of ‘firsts’ for so many Middle School boys, we’re managing reasonably well. New classes, teachers, sporting teams combine with Chapel, Assembly and Day and Boarding Houses to make for a time of not inconsiderable adjustment. Perhaps the most important aspect of your sons’ time at TAS at the moment is the fact that they’re busy. The boys, especially boarding students, are also experiencing their first weekend of activities and all are making preparations for the coast weekend which will involve a mass exodus from school this coming Friday afternoon.

Despite the conventional wisdom associated with keeping all new and returning students gainfully employed it would be supremely naïve to think that none is missing home. While their reactions are as various as their individuality, missing home is natural and considering this feeling is an affirmation of ‘things familiar’ and people they know well and trust, it’s actually a very normal reaction and something we expect. While some boys may not realize it, in a sense it’s important for us, as adults, to realize that in order for the boys to express concerns here, they feel comfortable enough at school to actually do this. To their very real credit the boarding staff have been tremendously busy and supportive: I went to prep last week to find that all, including Andrew Junge (on a daily basis), were on duty, assisting with Maths and HSIE and, perhaps more importantly at this stage of the year, just talking to the boys about their day. The Year 8 boys, too, deserve special mention: they’ve shown the new boys how to manage general house routine, are knowledgeable, good humored and sensible in terms of advice given to their peers. In short, the signs of a very healthy, successful start to the year are strong and positive.

To ensure success I ask that you, likewise, encourage your sons, ask about the good things that happened in their day and, above all else, reassure them when and where necessary about matters requiring same. I also encourage you, wherever possible, to travel to Armidale for the Swimming Carnival on Thursday 13 (evening session) and Friday 14 February, being the end of Week 3. Again, I want you to contact us about any matters concerning you or your sons, especially at this stage of the year.

Homework

Either you’ll have seen or heard about the School’s year-specific Homework Schedules. While it is easy for us to assist boarders with their new study routines during Prep time, it would be a very good idea, I think, for parents of day boys to read through the sheet your son has and assist him with the organisation of a daily work completion routine. You’ll note that the sheets contain subject-specific color codes to facilitate such organization. If you have any questions about the process, please contact your son’s Homework Teacher who will be able to advise you about the best ways to facilitate the process of homework completion and assignment / assessment preparation. What I like about this initiative is that it gives us opportunity to support and guide the boys to the realization of good study habits over time. Its implementation at a time when new curriculum models are on the horizon is both timely and wise. The schedule is reasonable in terms of time allocations for all subjects and sensitive to the needs and interests of younger students in that, very pleasing for a teacher of English, there is provision for reading time, especially at the end of each week. Andrew Junge has even organised an hour each Sunday as ‘quiet time’ so boys can continue with or complete their work.

Middle School Information Night

The Parent Information Session next week will commence at 5:30pm Thursday, 13 February. Parent Liaison Coordinators Millie Graham and Natalie Ramazani will help Alison Evans and me to greet you and then direct you to your sons’ Homerooms where teachers will give information about general Middle School practices and specific curriculum issues. While Homeroom staff will be talking to you, the boys will be watching a film in the Memorial Hall. The sessions for each year group have been allocated 40 minutes. Following this meeting we’ll then make our way to the McConville Centre where families will meet with us informally for a BBQ before the commencement of the Swimming Carnival in the Sports Centre. I’m really looking forward to meeting as many parents as possible.

Mark Harrison
Junior School BBQ

My thanks to all of our Junior School community for the fantastic support shown last Friday evening at our Welcome BBQ. An excellent crowd was in attendance and the atmosphere was very positive and convivial. I have to say, getting attention from the crowd was a little more difficult than I can remember…….

I would like to mention our Prefects, Harrison Abeysekera, Michael O’Sullivan, Jack Simmons, Sam Johnston and Duncan Carmichael. Their supervision at the Jumping Castle and assistance with the cooking was outstanding. Isn’t it reassuring to see how our TAS boys turn out? Thank you also to our Gappies, Thabe Sebola and Callum Gibson for the assistance throughout the evening as well.

Parent Info Evenings

With one evening to be completed, I am aware of the value of these evening as an opportunity for teachers and parents to begin the year with a very informative session which sets the standard of communication for the year. The input from our teachers and the feedback from parents is very important and I thank all involved.

Swimming Championships

With the Swimming Championships around the corner, on Tuesday 11 February, I invite all parents to come along and be a part of the day. It is a wonderful occasion and an opportunity to become involved whether with the P&F stall or by holding a stop watch. If you have some questions please contact either Fiona of myself and I look forward to seeing you all on the day.

Looking Ahead

**Wednesday 5 February**
- Yr 5 Assembly
- Parent Information evening 6.00 pm - K, 1 & 2

**Friday 7 February**
- Junior School Individual & Family photos – K to 5

**Monday 10 February**
- Transition individual & JS Family photo day – K to 5 in Big School

**Tuesday 11 February**
- Junior School Swimming Championships
- Tae Kwon Do – 3.45 to 4.45 pm in the Hoskins Centre
- Life Education Van – (11, 12 & 13)

**Wednesday 12 February**
- Year 4 Assembly

**Thursday 13 February**
- Let’s Chat Habitat

**Thursday 20 February**
- PSSA Swimming Carnival

Happy Birthday

This week we wish a very Happy Birthday to for last week to Finn Daugherty, Charlie Repin, Banjo Lawrence and Tristan Rottcher.

Birthday wishes for this week go to: Charlie Ryan, Jasper O’Neil, Sam Bock, Fletcher Jackson and Lachlan Galbraith.

School Photos

Individual and class photos will be held for the Junior School on Friday 7 February, with Transition being held on Monday 10 February. Those families with a child in Transition will have family photos taken on the Monday. Students are asked to wear their formal uniform being white shirt, tie and grey trousers. Please return your photo form to Reception prior to photo day.

Arrival at School

Now that family routines are established again for school term, we would appreciate children arriving at School no later than 8.45am each morning.

Class lessons start at 8.45am and children can miss crucial planning for the day if they arrive late, and it also disrupts the learning of other children in the class when instructions and arrangements have to be repeated for late arrivals.

Your children get an even greater start to the day if they can be here for at least 15 minutes prior to this so that they can play with their friends before School starts.

We are very thankful of your support of staff and other children by helping us with this.

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We are very thankful of your support of staff and other children by helping us with this.
Martial Arts with Andrew Bower

Many students elected to take part in these sessions last year and are available again in 2014. Each Tuesday from 3.45 – 4.45 pm in the Hoskins Centre, Andrew and his instructors will continue their sessions in a safe and fun environment, focusing on building self confidence and learning the fundamentals of self defence. The cost is $8/session and you can contact register your child at the session or by contacting the school.

Dance Club

Mrs Collette Brazier will once again hold Dance Club on Wednesday at lunchtimes in the Hoskins Centre. All children from Kinder to Year 5 are welcome to attend. Transition children are able to attend from Term 3. If your child is interested in going, please collect a letter from the Junior School Office, setting out payment details and a permission slip, which will need to be returned to the Junior School office with the terms’ dance fees. Dance Club will commence Wednesday 5 February.

Dining Room Lunches

Parents of children in Years 3, 4 and 5 may be interested in their child having lunch in the Dining Room. An extra cost is incurred for this arrangement. For more information, please speak with your child’s class teacher.

Junior School Swimming Championships

A cake stall will run in the foyer of the Swimming Centre from recess for our Junior School Swimming Championships. Families are asked that to support this P&F fundraiser by bringing in cakes or slices. We are an “Allergy Aware School” and ask for no nuts to be included and where able for foods to be labelled with ingredients. Most cakes and slices sell for around 50c.

Healthy Harold and the Life Education Program

Healthy Harold will be with us for the 11-13 February.

A variety of themes will run ranging from Cyber safety to Healthy eating choices, body systems and the effects of drugs and second hand smoke, peer pressure and positive relationships.

Each Year groups will have a targeted area with the Life Education Programme being very interactive. A copy of the merchandise list with costings was sent home earlier in the week by your class teacher. We do ask that any money brought to school for merchandise be brought in an envelope clearly marked with your child’s name and items being purchased.

Allergies

The start of a new school year is the time to reinforce our awareness of allergies and in particular those from foods such as peanuts, tree nuts, milk, eggs, and shellfish. We do have children in our Junior School who are allergic to these foods so it is imperative that if you bring in any item of food, such as a birthday cake for your child’s birthday that the class teacher be made aware of exactly what is in the food item. We would particularly like to encourage children not to bring in nut spreads also, such as peanut butter and Nutella spreads. We would appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Scholastic Book Club

To all parents: TAS Junior School will be participating in the Scholastic Book Club once again this year. We would like to thank Dee Ford for all her hard work in running the club so efficiently last year. The Book Club will be run by library staff from now on, so if you have any questions or need assistance, please come into the library, or contact us using the details below. The first lot of brochures will be coming home over the next week, with details of how to order and pay. Remember that each order helps earn free books and teaching materials for our classrooms, however there is never any obligation to order.

Mrs Allan, Mrs Ranck and Mrs Ramazani
Ph: 6776 5833, or email: nramazan@as.edu.au

Premiers Reading Challenge 2014

We are again running the PRC in 2014. Even though the Challenge officially runs from 1 February to 1 September, 2014, books read from 2 September 2013 can be counted towards this years challenge.

If you would like to have a go at the 2014 PRC please come and see myself, Mrs Allan or Mrs Ramazani in the Library so we can give you a permission note for your parent/guardian to sign giving you permission to participate in the Challenge this year. If you are new to TAS but have completed the challenge before at another school, I will need to know which school it was and your password details so I can change you over to TAS. The booklets for the 2014 PRC will be handed out to those who have handed in a permission note.

I won’t be able to register you online for the 2014 PRC until March, 2014 so you will need to keep your Reading Log in a safe place until we can start entering your books.
Please see the table below so you know how many books to read in each Challenge.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>2013 Challenge</th>
<th>Number of books needed to complete the Challenge</th>
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The PRC website has all the book lists for you to look up at https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html

One very important rule to remember is about the series books - In an approved series, any two books from the series can be read as part of official PRC reading. Up to five other books from the same series can be read as personal choice books.

We keep a full copy of the book lists in the Library for K-2, 3-4, 5-6 & 7-9 challenge lists. We have also marked the books which we have from the lists with a PRC sticker - the K-2 stickers are red, the 3-4 stickers are green and the 5-6 stickers are purple and are located on the spine towards the bottom of the book. If you don’t know what to look for just ask Mrs Allan, Mrs Ramazani or myself and we will be able to help you. I will be entering the books online for you from your reading log. From March, it would be helpful if you could bring your reading log to the Library during your weekly Library lesson so I can check on your progress and enter the books you have read. If any parents have any questions you can email me on jranck@as.edu.au, phone the Library 67765833 or call into the Library and see me on Monday, Tuesday and every second Wednesday. All the information, rules & book lists can be obtained on the above website.

Happy reading everyone! - Janine Ranck
PRC Coordinator

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**JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT, CHRISTINE WRIGHT**

**Sport**

Sam Meehan participated in the Regional Athletics Championships in Lismore on the weekend.

Sam had an excellent weekend receiving a Bronze in High Jump and Silver in the 800m. Placing 2nd in the 800m entitles Sam to move onto State Championships.

Well done Sam, on this outstanding result!

**Twilight Soccer Competition**

Registration is now open for the UNE Twilight Soccer Competition

To register go to www.unisport.com.au/sportune and remember to print off waiver forms

**Tuesdays**

4pm 10's and 5pm 12's
Start Date 8/2/14

**Thursdays**

4pm 14's and 5pm 16's
Start Date 10/2/14

Junior teams $360
9 week competition
Prizes for 1st and 2nd place
Competition ends week of the 7/4/13

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**JUNIOR INDOOR NETBALL COMP.**

Games Starting February 10th at 4pm
Age groups 7,8 and 9 or 10, 11 and 12
Cost $5.00 each per week
Call Wayne 6772 8099 or Sharon 0433 198 321
Fostering Fitness, Fun and Friendship
Swimming Carnival

There certainly is a buzz in the air with the anticipation of our first Junior School Carnival this year. The organisation of our swimming carnival, next Tuesday, 11th February is well underway and we now require any final nominations. Please hand these nominations to your class teacher by Wednesday, 5th February so Mrs Wright can organise our races for the day.

It was an exciting morning on Tuesday as we elected our Swimming Captains for the year. Well done to all Year 5 boys who worked hard on their speeches and spoke well to the Junior School children during the election process. Please remember that all of Year 5 will have a responsibility to lead their houses with good sportsmanship, while helping the House leaders to do their job well.

Congratulations to the following boys on their leadership roles:

Broughton House Captains
- Captain – Lachlan Nicoll
- Vice Captain – Hamish Chalmers

Green House Captains
- Captain – Tristan Rotcher
- Vice Captain – Max Barnsley

Ross House Captains
- Captain – Josiah Alcorn
- Vice Captain – Archie Chick

We are looking forward to a terrific, fun filled day next Tuesday. Any parents who have some time and would like to be involved in time keeping need to email Mrs Wright before Friday please. Thank you to the parents who have already expressed an interest in helping on the day.

Please also remember the P&F will be running their famous ‘Cake Stall’ on the day. Cakes and other goodies can be taken to the pool foyer on the morning of the carnival.

Mrs Christine Wright
Junior School Sports Co-ordinator

Gymnastics Report

There was much excitement as our troupe of talented gymnasts commenced their first session of gymnastics for 2014 at the Armidale Gymnastics Club. A vigorous warm up circuit ensured everyone’s hearts were pumping ready for the skills based rotations. The students worked their way through Static skills including floor supports and ball throwing; Springing and Landing skills which involved pit jumps and spring board routines; Locomotion involving confidence on the beam, and finally, Swinging using the bars and parallel bar strength exercises.

Everyone tried hard and enjoyed the afternoon’s activities.

Mrs Trenerry

Hot Shots Tennis

As usual, Hot Shots Tennis did not disappoint with the array of activities that they provide each week.

The children started with a series of hand eye co-ordination activities with a partner. They included:
- Single hand passing and catching with a partner.
- Single hand bouncing, passing and catching with a partner.
- Individual Double handed bouncing.
- Passing two balls with a partner at one time. One passed overhead, while the other is bounced passed.

To start the session the children go through a variety of skill related activities to build on their hand eye co-ordination. Then they progress to a higher technical level. The children for the next part of the session had to learn how to play short bat tennis. This insured greater accuracy and taught them how to hold the racket correctly.

To finish the session we played a game of “King Pin” which was fast and furious. A game that teaches the children position themselves on the court and encourages the children to build on their accuracy.

Below is a picture of one of our budding tennis players - Archi Lawrence.

Ms Bromwich
**TAS JUNIOR SCHOOL**  
**2014 SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

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</table>

TAS TALKS 15
FACT

One child pedestrian is killed every week in Australia (on average). For every one of these deaths, there are also 25 child pedestrians admitted to hospital for treatment to injuries.+

When a child is hit at an impact speed of 30km/h they have a 99% chance of survival. At 70km/h, the child’s chance of survival is less than 7%.*

+ Source Kid Safe 2000+
*Source Australian Transport Safety Bureau*

NO APOLOGIES, NO EXCUSES

When it comes to child safety, Armidale Dumaresq Council and the New South Wales Police make no apologies for fining drivers who break the law around schools and school zones.

Right now Armidale Dumaresq Council and the New South Wales Police are closely monitoring speeding and parking around schools throughout the Armidale area.

If you are caught endangering a child by speeding in a school zone or parking illegally, you will be fined. Illegal parking in school zones puts child safety at risk.

KNOW YOUR PARKING SIGNS

**NO STOPPING**

**WHAT DOES IT MEAN?**

You cannot stop in this area FOR ANY REASON.

**WHY IS IT THERE?**

To keep sight lines clear for drivers AND children, so both have more time to avoid traffic and crashes.

---

**NO PARKING**

**WHAT DOES IT MEAN?**

You can stop in a NO parking zone for a maximum of two minutes to drop off or pick up passengers.

**WHY IS IT THERE?**

To provide a safe place for older children to be set down and picked up without endangering other children.

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**BUS ZONE**

**WHAT DOES IT MEAN?**

You must not stop or park in a bus zone unless you are loading or unloading a bus.

**WHY IS IT THERE?**

To provide a safe place for large buses to set down and pick up passengers.

Children are small, hard to see, behave unpredictably and their little bodies are extremely fragile. You need to take extra care when driving and parking in and around school zones, even when you think there are no children around.