Welcome to the 2014 school year after what I hope has been a refreshing break for all our students, staff and families alike. We begin the year with new faces amongst our staff and very healthy enrolments of new students looking forward to all that 2014 will bring.

Welcome to New Students

As we start the new year, we welcome 90 new students at TAS. Included in this number are 40 new students and our strong enrolment of boarders entering Year 7 is particularly pleasing. As I commented at our opening assembly yesterday, these first days and weeks at a new school and new home are important and often emotional times and new students will rely on the generosity of those who have experienced that before to help them settle in. I have already seen a good deal of that going on around the campus and at our first formal dinner for the year last night and I look forward to it continuing.

I am very conscious that the pressure of drought, amongst other economic factors, has impacted heavily on many of our boarding families. The commitment made by our boarding families to present their sons with their TAS education is both heartening and a reminder to all of us here of the importance of assisting every TAS student to make the most of their opportunities here.

2013 HSC and the Academic Year Ahead

I hope that all parents received my letter reporting on our HSC results from last year. As will be evident, these results were very strong and I again offer congratulations to our Year 12 of 2013 and their teachers alike on their success, both as individuals and as a group.

Holiday Activities

As would be expected in a community such as ours, the school break has been more than simply a holiday for many of our students. Whilst the Christmas and New Year period is traditionally less occupied with school trips and activities than other breaks through the year, plenty has happened. At our staff meetings on Tuesday we heard reports on the rowing camps and regattas at Grafton and Southport, the cricket festival at Toowoomba, the mountain bike camp led by our chaplaincy team on the coast and the Forensic Science Management camp here at the School. Reports on all of these activities will come to both assembly and TAS Talks in coming weeks and I look forward to seeing these exciting activities brought to the School as a whole.

For most students, their activities and achievements over the break have been individual rather than school based and I have enjoyed hearing about these as well. I am conscious that work requirements at home have occupied the attention of many, demanding men’s work whilst on break from school, and I tip my hat to those boys for their maturity and work ethic. I also offer congratulations to others whose achievements are reported later in this first edition of TAS Talks for the year. Luke O’Donoghue and Matt Haydon’s efforts in the NSW Country Athletics Championships in Wollongong are worthy of our applause and I was impressed to hear of Duncan Carmichael’s good use of his recently gained surf lifesaving qualifications as he worked on patrol on the Central Coast through the holidays.

La Boheme

TAS was proud to host Opera New England in the Hoskins Centre for a second year as they staged a very ambitious and hugely successful production of Puccini’s ‘La Boheme’. Opera New England (known as ONE) is a not for profit organisation of passionate individuals whose mission, in their words, is ‘to bring opera to the sticks’. That was done in great style and before sell out crowds this year and I hope that all those involved, including our own Pat Bradley, take great satisfaction in seeing their work appreciated so keenly.
Welcome to New Teachers

Mr David Drain joins us as Croft Housemaster and will be teaching in the HSIE Department. Mr Drain comes to us from St. Josephs, Hunters Hill, where he has been teaching Business Studies, Legal Studies, Commerce and Geography for the past 4 years and has been assistant boarding housemaster catering to 170 boys. David comes to Armidale with his wife Alex and young children George and Neave.

Mr Andrew Junge joins us as the Middle School Housemaster and will be teaching in the HSIE Department. Mr Junge returns to TAS after 5 years at Rockhampton Grammar School where was teaching senior Geography and Economics and was heavily involved in senior rugby and cricket and led initiatives in global service learning. Mr Junge taught at TAS as well as being Deputy Housemaster in Croft House, 1st XV coach and the master in charge of cricket from 2005 to 2008 and some Year 12 boys may remember him as a Middle School teacher when they were in Year 6. Andrew returns to Armidale with his wife Natasha and children Max (in Transition) and Evelyn.

Mr Karl Sebire joins our Creative Arts Department as a fulltime teacher of Visual Arts. Mr Sebire has spent the last 7 years at The Kings School in senior boarding whilst completing his teaching degree and more recently teaching in the Visual Arts and Media Department and taking responsibility as the Kings master in charge of Tennis.

Ms Jayne Heagney joins the English Department as a full-time teacher of senior English. Ms Heagney is not unfamiliar to the TAS community and some will know her as the sister of Luke Heagney who completed Year 12 in 2011. Ms Heagney has an honours degree in History along with her Bachelor of Arts / Bachelor of Education degree and is currently enrolled in her Masters in Theology.

Following the departure of our Director of Music, Nik Glass, at the end of last year, two new staff arrive to teach in our Music Department in Term 1. Corinne Arter who will be known to many as a former director of the Armidale Conservatorium and prominent figure in Armidale’s vibrant music education scene joins us along with Benn Tracy who completed his music and teaching studies with his final practicum placement here last year.

Manuela das-Neves Jones joins the Middle School Boarding team as Housemother. Her familiarity with the TAS community and boarding will stand her in good stead in this role.

Mr Anthony Carlon will be known to all who were here in 2013 when he completed his HSC. Mr Carlon will be spending 2014 as the Hoskins Centre Technical Manager. As many will know, Mr Carlon has supported the technical work in Hoskins over recent years as a student and his appointment to this position for 2014 is a natural progression for him.

We also welcome two new Gap Staff; Michael Cursons from Rondebosch Boys Highschool in the Eastern Cape of South Africa and Terry Tomes from Stanford Lake College, South Africa.

Finally, welcome back to Christine Wright and Peter Hall after what I hope was a happy and refreshing period of long service leave through Term 4 last year.

Other Staff Changes and News

I also draw attention to several changes to staff positions and responsibilities that will be of interest to parents. Luke Polsen and Kirsty Brunsdon have moved from Junior School to Middle School as teachers of Year 6, whilst Neil Druce has moved in the other direction to teach in Junior School.

Jason Lincoln has taken on Careers in addition to Director of Co Curricular Activities, providing the opportunity for Trevor Thatcher to take on additional Science classes.

Our school counsellor, Rob Hadfield will be operating part time in 2014 and will be at school all of Tuesday and Thursday and half of Wednesday.

In other staff news, I offer congratulations to Fiona Taber who was married to Andrew Fraser early in the holidays and to Susan and Luke Polson on the birth of Bronte Rae Polson on January 6.

Launch of the New TAS Website
14 February

I hope that parents have received notice in the most recent mailing from the School of the launch of the new TAS Website. This is an exciting development in what will inevitably be a major means of communication for the School and I have been hugely impressed with what has been achieved.

The site will be live and accessible at the usual web address on February 14. The postponement from the advertised date has been made to enable staff returning after the holiday break to bring their web pages up to date for the start of 2014. I am sure that the wait will be worthwhile and I look forward to making comment at that time.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Term 1 Week 1

Friday 31 January
  6.00pm Junior School Welcome BBQ at McConville Centre

Week 2

Monday 3 February
  6.00pm Junior School Parent Information Evening (Years 1, 3 & 5)

Tuesday 4 February
  6.00pm Junior School Parent Information Evening (Years K, 2 & 4)

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
CHAPLAIN, RICHARD NEWTON

ABSQUE DEO NIHIL
1 Corinthians 13 - The School Lesson

There are many logos and mottos emblazoned on people's chests, such as: “Dear Math, I am not a therapist – solve your own problems.”

Then one back for the mathematicians, “there is a fine line between numerator and denominator”. Perhaps one for the English scholar, “rule of grammar #31 – double negatives are a no no”. For the lover of fine food – “vegetables are what food eats.” Or if they’re all a bit hard to get, “bacon makes everything better.”

I have definitely bought T-shirts only to get home and discover what they really meant, and therefore never wear them. Some logos are easy to get, some are a little more obscure.

What about the logo you wear almost everyday? At first, it is very difficult to understand unless you're a student of Latin. It says “Absque Deo Nihil” which means of course, “without God nothing”. I hope that is not news for any of you – but I’m sure it is for some. Even if you know how the motto translates, have you ever taken the time to consider what it means? For the next few weeks this will be our mission.

Without God nothing? Or aside from God nothing. Nothing we experience, observe, taste, feel, touch, smell, hear would be, without God.

According to The Bible there this is no truer than when we speak of love, which, as it happens our school lesson majors on. If fact it says whatever we do, regardless of how impressive it may, if it is done without love, it is worthless – strong words. I’m guessing and hoping you are planning and working towards all sorts of goals this year – you should be, but if they are undertaken without love – they are just noise. The school lesson pushes this further, without God nothing. Therefore, without God no love, without love just noise. This makes sense if The Bible is true when it says ‘God is love’

Now as we start the new year, lets not just make noise…

Turning this good idea into reality will require patience and a willingness to keep returning to the practices when we veer away, become disappointed or feel overwhelmed. (Perhaps reminding ourselves can be assisted by putting notes on our wall or above our desks).

Best wishes then for each day of 2014.

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/

P&F ASSOCIATION
SANDRA KAYNES - PRESIDENT

Welcome to all students and parents for what will be another very busy year and term in the 2014 P&F calendar. This term we have the Junior Swimming Carnival (11th February), Middle/Senior School swimming carnival (14th February), Junior School athletics (19th March), Middle/Senior School athletics (21st March) and the first weekend of the term 1 break (12th & 13th April) our annual TAS Rugby carnival. More details for each of these events will be given over the next couple of weeks; all proceeds raised go back into our school.

Liaison Parents
Thanks to all those who have volunteered to be Liaison Parents in 2014, we still have a couple of vacancies in the Middle & Senior, so if you are interested in becoming an LP please contact Sandra Kaynes skaynes@bigpoond.com

AGM
Our Annual General Meeting will be held Wednesday 19 February 2014. The AGM will take place at 7pm in the McConville Centre. All executive positions will be declared vacant and a new executive for 2014 will be elected.

Following the AGM will be our first general meeting of 2014.

COUNSELLOR, ROB HADFIELD

New years are opportunities for new starts. It is so easy to live on auto-pilot and live today as a continuation of yesterday, this year as last year. Reflecting on the past, learning from it and releasing it so as to create a new orientation to the present, is a deliberate, intentional practice that we can develop. It is like coming home to what is, right here, right now, available. In reality we can only live now, yet we spend so much of our time locked into the past and worrying about or imagining the future.

So here we are at the end of January, still on the cusp of a new year. Committing to engaging, becoming connected to others, and embracing the moment, can become a way of life for us in 2014 if we practice.
Welcome to the 2014 academic year.

Following a highly successful 2013 including some wonderful results in the HSC for our Year 12 boys, our attention now focuses on the year ahead and working with your son to gain the most out of his time at TAS. One of our academic aims at TAS is for our students to leave school with the skills, knowledge and behaviours that will allow them to have the broadest range of post-school options available to them. For this to occur, they need to have developed the ability to revise, study, organise their time and meet deadlines as well as having developed their skills in specific subjects.

Over the past few years we have seen an increased academic focus amongst our boys and, with the support of their parents, teachers and the boarding house staff, they have comprehensive support structures available to them. However, there is always something else that can be done and with the support of our teachers and Student Representative Council you will see a number of new initiatives introduced early this year to further support our boys.

Homework timetables.

The first of these initiatives is a homework timetable that has been customised for each homeroom in Middle School, Year 9 or 10. For each day of the timetable, a number of subjects from the day have been allocated a homework session. The length of these sessions depends on the year group and the time to complete this set work will undoubtedly vary from child to child. They have been created so that students, parents, advisors and boarding house staff know what homework is expected to be completed each day. The amount of homework set per year group does not change from previous years, but the predictability of it will hopefully now improve. Further details of this system has been sent out to students and parents via email today. Attached to that email is the homework timetable for your child.

School Photographs

Please remember to return the photo order forms that were mailed to you, if you wish to order any individual/family school photographs.

Family groups are welcome to arrive together before 8.15 am on the mornings of Thursday 6th or Friday 7th February for family photographs to be taken.

For any queries, please contact Meg Sadler on (02) 6776 5805 or msadler@as.edu.au
Welcome to a new year at TAS and what an exciting one it is shaping up to be. I look forward to continue working together to achieve a well balanced, meaningful and enjoyable experience for all our students as they are encouraged to extend themselves outside of the classroom.

Already during the holidays many of our students and staff have contributed to camps and competitions both within and well beyond our region and I congratulate them on their outstanding efforts and thank them for their ongoing contribution to the broader life of the school.

The breadth and depth of the TAS Co-curricular offering extends from drama, music, public speaking and sport and includes both staff and student led initiatives and activities including clubs. It also embraces our inter house competition which covers all of the above areas.

The genuine “access to opportunity” and “getting engaged in life” afforded by the program endorses the school’s belief in developing the whole student by providing skills and experiences that challenge and excite well beyond the classroom. It is the cornerstone of TAS’ involvement and commitment to the principles of Round Square and remains central to the success of each individual.

The ability to face challenges, defeat fear, build resilience, teamwork and communication skills leads to greater self-confidence that can extend to academic achievement and growth as a young man. Still the very heart of our program relies upon humility and support at all times. To this end the Co-Curricular program is the natural heartland of school spirit where supporting each other’s efforts on stage, in the field and in the community galvanises pride and a sense of belonging.

In 2014 I look forward to celebrating with you the efforts of all our students in their Co-Curricular pursuits.

Mrs Karen Hutton (Assistant) or I can be contacted at any time on dcc@as.edu.au or the office phone is 02 6776 5820.

Swimming Carnival Week 3

The swimming carnival is on Monday (200IM) and then Thursday and Friday of Week 3. It provides an opportunity for our boys to commit to their peers on the war cry night and in the relays. Also, to enjoy the challenge of racing 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/

Sport Training Commences on Thursday of Week 1.

Just a reminder that all sports information maybe found on the sports web site at:

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

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

Athletics off to a good start

At the NSW Country Athletics Championships in Wollongong on January 24-26 Luke O’Donoghue and Matthew Haydon had great success, each coming home with three medals. Luke crossed the line for gold in the 18-19 years 200m (22.85 sec), a silver in the 18-19 years 100m, and was a member of the gold-medal winning 4 x 100m Opens relay team. Matthew was also a member of the relay team and took two bronze medals, in the 18-19 years discus and triple jump. The boys competed with the Armidale Athletics Club. This is a wonderful achievement for the boys as they head into Year 12 and their final school athletics season.

Pictured above are Matthew Haydon (left) and Luke O’Donoghue (right) with their medals
Welcome back to Term 1 at TAS. We look forward to catching up with all our past instrumental and ensemble students and meeting many new ones over the coming weeks.

There are fantastic opportunities for students who wish to take up an instrument this term or might like to be in a TAS Ensemble and we are happy to answer any questions you might have.

Students - just pop down to the Music Centre and have a chat with the Music Administrator Mrs Broadbent or Teachers, Mr Finco and Mrs Butcher.

Parents - feel free to phone the Music Centre on 6776 5890 or email sbroadbe@as.edu.au to enquire.

Tuition Enrolment Forms are available on the TAS Website.

**ENSEMBLE REHEARSALS START NEXT WEEK AND TIMES WILL BE UP ON NOTICE BOARDS**

Please note: Chapel Choir rehearsals commence THIS Friday 31st January.

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### Instrumental Tuition

All instrumental tuition will commence again next week from Monday 3rd February and 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.

Students please ensure you bring your instruments to every lesson and 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.

We look forward to seeing you soon in the TAS Music Centre. Mrs Butcher, Mr Finco and Mrs Broadbent

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### TAS Music Ensemble Rehearsals 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ensemble</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Conductor</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TAS Trebles</td>
<td>8.00 – 8.40am</td>
<td>Mrs Butcher</td>
<td>Music Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAS Big Band</td>
<td>3.45 – 5.00pm</td>
<td>Mr Finco</td>
<td>Music Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAS Senior Jazz Combo</td>
<td>5:00 – 6:00pm</td>
<td>Mr Dunham</td>
<td>Music Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAS Singers</td>
<td>7:40 – 8.40am</td>
<td>Mr Finco/Oxley</td>
<td>Music Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAS Guitar Band</td>
<td>1:20 – 2:00pm</td>
<td>Mrs Butcher</td>
<td>Music Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAS Wind Ensemble</td>
<td>7.40 – 8.40am</td>
<td>Mr Woodhouse</td>
<td>Music Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapel Choir</td>
<td>3:45 – 5.00pm</td>
<td>Mr Oxley/Ms Rolfe</td>
<td>TAS Chapel</td>
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West Side Story back in action

Many dedicated cast members attended an intensive 'camp' during the last week of holidays and I thank them for their determination and patience. Rehearsals are now back in full swing and all the action can be followed on the Hoskins Centre Facebook event page 'West Side Story - the journey'. Owing to the super large cast, choir and orchestra we will have on stage we have had to reduce the capacity of the audience so we don't exceed the legal number of people the Hoskins Centre licensed to hold so I urge everyone to book now or risk disappointment! Bookings: trybooking.com/ DXAQ

TAS LIFE TRAINING IN ACTION

Duncan Carmichael spent some of his summer holidays making good use of skills acquired as part of the Activities program at TAS.

As part of the TAS Surf Life program conducted in conjunction with Sawtell Surf Life Saving Club, Duncan gained his Surf Bronze Medallion during Activities Week.

He became a registered member of the Cape Hawke Surf Life Saving Club near Forster, and over the holidays took part in rostered patrols at One Mile Beach, including one in very hazardous conditions where he was required to patrol on his board at the rear of swimmers.

Duncan enjoyed the experience especially the “roving” patrol, pictured here with a fellow lifesaver.
Well, we've begun: Day 1 passed as expected with real pace, renewed energy and a very reasonable level of enthusiasm. New boys have navigated timetables, including trips to the Senior School, lunch lines and are adjusting to bell times.

Last night all boarders attended their first Assembly, Formal Dinner in the Dining Hall and then prep in the Boarding House. All went really well and, as I'm suspecting, if you're reading between the lines, the boys (including day students) are especially busy and this is the best way of managing a new school for most and a new year for all.

I went to lunch, lunch duty, dinner and prep yesterday, all occasions presenting themselves as opportunities for me to talk to boys and I want you to know, considering the fact that all things are new, we seem to be making the right kind of progress. To ensure such progress you can assist us greatly. Talk to your sons and let us know of matters you think we should know about. It would be foolish of me to think that the boys will tell me everything, so I'm counting on you for your support.

**Dates of Interest**

The following dates and events will help you to know what we're doing and when.

**Thursday 6th February**  Middle/Senior School ID photos  (formal uniform)

**Thursday 13th February – 5:30pm – 7:30pm**  Middle School Parent Information Evening and Welcome BBQ followed by the War Cry Competition at the Sports Centre.

**Friday 14th February**  Middle/Senior School Swimming Championships
HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL, IAN LLOYD

It has been a pleasure to catch up with so many parents over the last few days as we began the New Year in Junior School. As I moved from room to room today, it is also clear that I am yet to catch up with the many stories about the holidays from the children. Please remind them that my office is a place where they are always welcome and that I look forward to catching up with their news.....

Staffing

We welcome Mrs Tabitha Dowse back to TAS again for the term as she replaces Mrs Veronica Waters on Year 5 while she is on Long Service Leave and we wish them both well during this time. Mrs Regina Pollard is also joining us this term to carry on our Learning Support program while Mrs Lesley Brown is on leave and we welcome Mr Neil Druce into the Year 4 classroom knowing that his experience and expertise will contribute enormously to our JS teaching team. Mrs Christine Wright takes over the responsibility of our JS Sports Coordinator, and I encourage you to contact her should there be any questions about our sporting program.

Liaison Parents for 2014

Firstly I would again like to thank last year’s parents for the wonderful role they played in bringing together our school community. Mrs Natalie Ramazani and her team did a wonderful job and we welcome the following parents to the role this year and thank them, in advance for taking the time to contribute to our school in such a meaningful way. They are:

TRANSITION: Mandy Fenwicke & Dee Ford
KINDERGARTEN: Ingrid Evans & Lynelle Slade
YEAR 1: Caroline Coupland & Tara Shalk
YEAR 2: Sue Crew & Jane Gilpin
YEAR 3: Joanna Fanos & Rachael Nicoll
YEAR 4: Jenny Smith & Tina Straker
YEAR 5: Kathryn Tamminga, Kate Lawrence & Scott Alcorn.

Permission Notes for local excursions and activities

To avoid the unnecessary and burdensome process of permission notes for local excursions and activities that are directly related and part of our curriculum, the School will be asking for a single permission note to be signed which will grant express permission for your child to be involved. All details relating to the location, timing and purpose of any activity will be well advertised in advance in both the classroom notes and in TAS Talks. If you have any questions about such activities, please direct them to either your classroom teacher or me. For all other major excursions and other activities, which fall outside this category a specific permission note will be required.

Uniform

We ask that our students learn to wear their respective uniforms correctly, with pride both in themselves and their school. A reminder also that from next week, students may wear their sporting uniform as advertised, on those days where they have sport after school.

Looking ahead

Friday 31 January
* Junior School Welcome BBQ 6-8pm - Junior School with Jumping Castle

Monday 3 February
* Parent Information Evening Years 3, 4 and 5 in the Junior School

Wednesday 5 February
* Year 5 Assembly
* Parent Information Evening Years K, 1 and 2 in the Junior School

Friday 7 February
* Junior School ID Photos

Tuesday 11 February
* Junior School Swimming Championships
* Life Education Van

Wednesday 12 February
* Year 4 Assembly
* Life Education Van

Thursday 13 February
* Let’s Chat habitat performance
* Life Education Van

Happy Birthday

Many children celebrated their birthday during the holidays and we trust you all had a wonderful day. We also wish all children celebrating their birthday this week, a very Happy Birthday.
Junior School Barbecue

This is a wonderful opportunity for new and returning TAS families and staff to get together and have a most enjoyable evening. We welcome and encourage all families to attend. The barbecue will be held in the Junior School under cover area on Friday, 31 January from 6.00pm to 8.00pm. The much loved jumping castle has been booked and will provide easy entertainment for the masses of children.

Formal Uniform – Friday 7 February

A reminder that children are required to wear formal uniform on this date as individual and family school photographs will be taken. Please ensure that your photograph order is returned to the Junior School Office by that day. Please contact Main School reception if you did not receive your photo form in the mail earlier this Year.

Parent Information Evenings 6–7pm

Parents are warmly invited to attend these evenings in Week 2, Monday 3 February Years 2, 4 and 5 and Wednesday 5 February, Years K, 1 and 3 February. They will begin in the undercover area with drinks and nibbles. Groups then move off to their child’s classroom. These sessions are informative and an excellent opportunity to get to know other parents of children in your child’s class. They are also very enjoyable! Teachers will explain their expectations and procedures operating within the classroom.

Contacting the Junior School
Ph:  6776 5817

Parents may wish to leave a message on the Junior School answering machine by phoning 02-6776 5817. These messages are noted prior to school, during the recess and lunch breaks and after 3.30pm. A message left on the Junior School answering machine will enable staff to return your call at a suitable time.

Naming Belongings

Parents are encouraged to name all their children’s belongings. Whilst we endeavour to return all lost property it becomes incredibly difficult if items are not named. A lost property box is in the Junior School Homework Centre room and parents are encouraged to check here in the first instance if items are lost. Items returned to the school are often left at the main TAS Reception, please do not forget to check here for any items. Please ensure all second hand clothing is marked with the correct name.

Absences from School

Parents are asked to advise the School if their child is absent by 9.00am on the day and a note from the parent explaining the absence is required to be sent to the teacher upon the child’s return to school. We suggest that if your child has been ill during the night or in the morning, the best place for them is at home where they will receive the constant care necessary.

If a child has vomiting or diarrhoea, it is expected they will not return to school for a period of 24 hours for the last symptom. Parents of students who are ill at school, will be contacted so the parents can decide what is best for their child.

Sports News

Welcome back to TAS Junior School Sports news. We are looking forward to another great year of participation and activity for our children in the Junior School. Please note that all sports training commences in Week 2 on Monday 3rd February from 3.45pm to 4.45pm. Sport afternoons will continue as for Term 4, 2013. The children are to be picked up from the turning circle by 5pm or will be returned to the Homework Centre to be supervised until collected.

Commencement of Games:
Miniball – will commence Monday, 10th February.
Alligators – will commence Friday, 31st January
Tennis comp – TBC
Cricket – Saturday, 8th February
Indoor Hockey – Friday, 7th February
Gymnastics – Monday, 3rd February

Please check with your respective coaches for any other details re: training and games.

For new children who are keen to become involved in summer sport, please see Mrs Christine Wright or email her on cwright@as.edu.au this week. If you are already involved in a town team competition for summer, you may continue with that team for the remainder of the term. Please note that sport is compulsory for Years 3, 4 & 5 but new students may wish to start sport in Term 2.

Sports Training

Please note that sports’ training is always on regardless of weather conditions for both summer and winter sports. Should the weather be inclement, or scheduled games cancelled, the coaches will still be using this time to coach the children, and the children’s attendance remains compulsory.
Junior School Swimming Carnival –
Tuesday 11th February

We are already in the planning process for our Junior School Swimming Carnival in Week 3 this term. Nomination forms for this carnival will go home with your child this week. Please read the back of the form for important information before completing. If your child can swim 50m, they must enter the 50m event not the 25m. They cannot enter both events. Please keep this in mind when nominating for events. Ensure you return your child’s nomination form by Wednesday 5th February to Mrs Wright. Please email if you have any concerns or questions in regard to filling out the nomination form - cwright@as.edu.au Note Kindergarten children will be allowed to compete the 25m freestyle with a kick board if they wish.

We encourage as many children as possible to enter these events and enjoy participating in our carnival. Parents are welcome to attend, and even encouraged to assist us on the day and a programme of events will be available on the web before the day, with approximate times.

Looking forward to a fun filled year in sport.

Mrs Christine Wright
Junior School Sports Co-ordinator

Please drop in and say hello...

Finally, I would like to invite one and all to our Junior School BBQ this Friday as a great opportunity for us to catch up and meet new parents. Again, my office is always available to you and I encourage you to come in to see me and let me know how things are going. Working together is a key to our success and your child’s happiness here with us. I look forward to catching up soon.

Let me tell you a story about a painter, a potter and a dabbler....... 

Onceuponatime...........(tobecontinued!)