It is hard to believe that Week 5 of the term is upon us. Since writing to you last week, the results of the TAS team at the State Kayaking Championships held on the Nymboida River have come to hand.

The boys performed very well and the results were a great credit to a team whose preparations have been hampered by the lack of a true white water training program with the closure of the Gulang Creek waterway.

The highlight was David Williams, Nick Bohlsen, Jack Bishop and Angus Roxburgh-Batt receiving gold or silver medals in a number of events.

I would like to thank Mr Christian Nexo and Mr Neil Druce for travelling to the Nymboida River and supporting the boys in their endeavours over the three days of the Championship.

Last Friday an armada of TAS sportsmen travelled to Tamworth to compete with Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School on a number of levels. It was an afternoon and evening of mixed success.

Some great wins in the rugby, soccer and chess combined with some very narrow defeats led to an overall count of six victories to TAS and seven victories to Farrer.

The rivalry between the two schools is a healthy one and our boys look forward to the return fixture in Armidale next year to regain the Dick Hodgson Shield.

The Armidale Eisteddfod begins this week and Tuesday is the Choirs and Choral night. I am very much looking forward to the TAS performances.

Just as we laud the efforts of our young sportmen it is very important to recognise the time and effort that our music staff and student participants devote to this extravaganza. They place a great deal of emphasis on representing the school and themselves to the best of their ability.

I wish all of our performers well for the weeks to come.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Thank you to all 29 students who collected for the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal on Sunday and for giving up your very precious time on such a glorious Sunday. I know some of you gave up a sleep in and others even gave up Rugby. Four hours will be added to your community service record for 2014. A reminder to all, please check your record on moodle to see that it is up to date. This will be then recorded on your semester 1 report and it best to make sure it is correct. If it isn’t, speak to your advisor to update it.

Ms Boydell
Week 5

**Wednesday 28 May**
- Motivational Media presentation (Yrs 6-11)
- New England Sings! Primary Choirs Workshop
- TAS/NEGS/PLC Combined Chapel Service at TAS

**Thursday 29 May**
- Year 11 Parent Teacher Interviews
d’a Vinci Decathlon (Knox Grammar, Sydney)

**Friday 30 May**
- Year 11 Parent Teacher Interviews
- NW Equestrian Expo (Coonabarabran)
- Dubbo Bull Sale

**Saturday 31 May**
- NW Equestrian Expo
- Inter School Rugby 7’s Tournament at TAS
- Dubbo Bull Sale

**Sun 1 Jun**
- Year 12 Careers/University Expo in Sydney
- NW Equestrian Expo
- Dubbo Bull Sale

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**Week 6**

**Monday 2 June**
- Years 9/10 Mid Year Exams
- NW Equestrian Expo
- Dubbo Bull Sale

**Monday 3 June**
- Years 9/10 Mid Year Exams
- NW Equestrian Expo
- Dubbo Bull Sale

**Wednesday 4 June**
- Years 9/10 Mid Year Exams
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer

**Thursday 5 June**
- Years 9/10 Mid Year Exams
- Eisteddfod Strings & Chamber Ensembles Classes conclude

**Friday 6 June**
- Staff PD Day
- Boarders Depart - Queen’s Birthday Long Weekend (School Closed)

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**Week 7**

**Saturday 7 June**
- School Closed
- Queens Birthday Long Weekend

**Sunday 8 June**
- School Closed
- Queens Birthday Long Weekend

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**Parent News**

The most recent NSW Parents’ Council Newsletter can be found here:
http://www.parentscouncil.nsw.edu.au/Newsletters.htm

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**LOST PROPERTY**

Is your child missing any clothing? Mrs Tearle has a large amount of Lost Property in the Uniform and Book Shop. It has all been washed and sorted into Houses. If your child is missing any item of clothing, please check with Mrs Tearle as she may have it!
Year 8 Maths Competition

On Friday 16 May, students from all over the state congregated at UNE for the annual Year 8 Maths competition. There were two TAS teams battling it out in a day full of maths puzzles and games, stretching their skills in problem solving with a smorgasbord of different activities, competing head-to-head against 59 teams.

The team consisting of Sambavan Jeyakumar, Angus Apps, Jack Berry and Nicholas Bohlsen placed fifth overall, and the team with Angus Smith, Nicholas Jackson, Xavier Tonkins and Riley Clarke were placed in the top 13 teams competing on the day. A solid effort from both teams, well done boys!

P&F ASSOCIATION

SUE CARTWRIGHT - PRESIDENT

TAS P&F MEETING

A small but enthusiastic and generous group met at our Term 2 P&F General Meeting last Wednesday night – our annual funding requests meeting. Members present listened to submissions made from across the school and voted to support both new and continuing projects to the value of just over $27,000. The funding is going towards items such as continuing support and contributions to the Year 8 Sydney excursion, Year 10 Canberra excursion, NZ opens rugby development tour, our contribution towards Binghi, NSW Parents Council membership, seating both inside and outside the library, co-contribution to a new marquee to be used at the barbecue area and elsewhere, co-contribution to renovations to create change rooms underneath the stage in the Memorial Hall, and a radio for the medical centre waiting room.

A huge thank you to those who attended on Wednesday night, and also to everyone who has worked so hard over the last 12 months to help raise the funds. We couldn't do it without you.

SAVE THE DATE

A reminder that the annual RazzamaTAS fete is on Saturday 1 November.

We will be having meetings to coordinate all the activities that will be on offer, so please keep an eye out for communication from your Liaison Parents. This is a major fund raiser each year that goes a long way towards enabling us to support the school in a variety of areas, and your offers of assistance will be happily accepted.
Senior Round Square Conference Opportunity January 2015

The CheongShim International Academy Senior Conference for Round Square is happening from 26 - 31 January, 2015 in South Korea.

The theme of the conference will be 'Building Bridges Beyond Borders' and will be a unique look into the "Peace Makers" of the world.

The conference participants will hear presentations from guest speakers and from students from South Africa, India and Korea about the late Nelson Mandela, Mahatma Gandhi, Kurt Hahn & the founder of CSIA, Dr S M Moon.

The discussions will focus on the solutions that these very different change-makers have proposed, the legacy they have left behind, and what could be the best for our present day and age.

Conference trips will include visits to cultural sites, winter snow sports and service activities.

This is an exciting leadership opportunity for current Year 10 and 11 boys. Register your interest with Mrs Barnier and keep watching this space for further details.

EXCURSION TO TEZUKAYAMA

Information Meeting – TAS Excursion to Tezukayama

Thursday 12 June – Japanese Classroom at 5:30 pm

Parents of Year 4, 5 and 6 students are invited to attend an Information Evening about the Excursion to Tezukayama in December on Thursday 12 June. It is an opportunity to find out more about this exciting opportunity. The Excursion to Tezukayama is open for all Year 4, 5 and (for the first time) Year 6 students.

As the supervising teachers, we are very excited to be part of this trip and invite you to join us for our first evening information session, to be held on 12 June at 5.30 pm in the Japanese Classroom, on the top floor of the Moyes building.

This will be the seventh time TAS has made the trip to Japan, and as in previous years, it offers an exceptional chance to see and benefit from this opportunity to travel to Japan and experience the culture and use the Japanese learnt in the classroom.

While some detail of the trip is to be finalised, the topics covered will include:

- Proposed itinerary and costs, and documentation requirements
- Outline of the cultural experiences they will encounter
- Ideas to assist with the preparation for billeting
- Suggestions to assist with the preparation for travelling overseas

It will be an informal meeting designed to introduce the major components of the trip and some ideas which will assist with the preparation of your child, all of which we know will contribute towards gaining the maximum benefit from this wonderful experience.

If you have any questions about this amazing opportunity please contact Allan Moore (amoore@as.edu.au) or Neil Druce (ndruce@as.edu.au). For catering purposes, please let us know if you will be attending.
Chess Farrer Fixture

The Chess fixture began the Farrer vs TAS competition bonanza last Friday. The team of Harry Pollard, Charlie Wyatt, Lachlan Tonkin and Michael Harris, selected a board, introduced themselves, shook hands with their opponents and then the clock started ticking. If you have never played chess with a timer you need to know it brings an entirely new set of strategies to consider. Ten minutes-move-time was all that was allowed per game per player. Move, click, move, click...silence, move, click. Tension is definitely mounting as the clock ticks. The rules are that if you run out of time your opponent wins. While this happened to the Farrer team twice only one loss was counted - as the true gentlemen of chess all know - etiquette dictates, you should know when to concede. Congratulations to all four boys. With the final score 4 all, the results were a great way to start the afternoon of competition.

Kayaking: State Championships

The TAS kayaking team competed at the NSW All Schools championships between 17 and 20 of May at Grafton and Nymboida.

The team consisted of David Williams, Jack Bishop, Angus Roxborough-Batt, Nick Bohlsen, Nathan Van Duijnhoven, Heath Chandler, Xavier Tonkin and Harry Graham. These paddlers competed extremely well and were recognised with a number of awards throughout the competition. Highlights included: David Williams 1st K1 5000m flat water, 1st K1 whitewater sprints, 2nd Slalom, Nick Bohlsen: 2nd Slalom, and Jack Bishop, Angus Roxborough-Batt, David Williams: 1st Wildwater K1 teams.

There was also a good friendly rivalry between Jack Bishop and Angus Roxborough-Batt as well as between Xavier Tonkin, Nathan Van Duijnhoven and Harry Graham. A special mention is given to Heath Chandler for his commitment to kayaking in so many ways. His self motivation, determination and commitment to the sport earnt him a well deserved award from the senior kayakers.

This group of students worked extremely well as a team throughout the four days. Special thanks go to Lee Roxborough (mother of Angus Roxborough-Batt) for her support throughout the championships and to Christian Nexo and Neil Druce, the staff accompanying the team.

Paddling at Grafton Postponed

The Grafton trip scheduled for this weekend has been postponed due to its proximity to Year 9/10 exam week. It will now run in Term 3.
Football Report

There were a number of impressive performances on the pitch over the past week. Our TAS 1st XI continue their impressive season with a 6-1 win over Uralla on Saturday, following a nail biting 2-1 victory over Farrer on Friday night. Congratulations also to our 15s squad who played against Farrer on Friday also- they did a mighty job. Thanks to Mr Nexo for again coaching the 15s.

TAS are on net duty on the Rologas fields on Saturday 21 June (first Saturday of our school holidays). If you would be available to assist with the putting up of nets, corner posts etc. early on the Saturday morning, please email lpolson@as.edu.au

Rugby - TAS Vs Farrer

As the final whistle blew, a TAS boy lay on the ground, leg extended, cramping. His opponent, who only minutes earlier, had been straining every sinew to defeat him, stood by his side supporting his ankle. This scene was representative of the spirit in which all games were played. The vocal crowd were treated to a wonderful contest where fortunes ebbed and flowed yet both sides kept their heads and played with passion and discipline.

The fixtures were all tied up going into the 1st XV game. After the game, with reluctance yet heartfelt congratulations, Alan Jones handed over the Jim Leavy Shield for the First XV and the Dick Hodgson Shield for overall pointscore, to Farrer Headmaster, Gordon Cooper (with every intent of claiming it back next year.) For a full list of results, please view the TAS website Rugby Page.

Next Saturday, 31 May, will provide an opportunity to strengthen both skills and community. The players from the First and Second XV will assist coaches in running drills for the other age groups between 10:30am and 11:30am in preparation for an internal 7’s competition on Wakefield between 11:30am and 12:30pm. The RSG and TAS kitchen will combine to provide a barbeque for all players and non-rugby boarders, at 12:30pm. The under 12’s are playing in the Tamworth Carnival on Sunday, however, they are most welcome to join in with the 13’s for what is sure to be a valuable and fun event.

Thank you to all those who have contributed photos to the Photo Gallery. I invite and encourage all to view these special moments or add to them by sending their photos to either Donna Jackson or Tim Hughes, in the Development Office.
Hockey

Hockey Registration Update

Thank you to all families who have completed the online registration process via the Hockey NSW website. Registrations will be reconciled through Hockey NSW on 1 June so I will therefore be cross checking the online subscriptions with team/player lists to see who has not yet registered correctly. If you have not yet done so please do so immediately as I will be sending out a list of players unregistered on Thursday evening. All players must be registered however payment options may be deferred and charged by TAS at a later date. Players not registered by 1 June will not be permitted to play.

If you are having difficulty registering online I am happy to assist from 4-5pm this Thursday upstairs in the Junior School Year 2 classroom. Contact me on 0458 006 053 or email at aportell@as.edu.au to confirm attendance.

Mr Alex Portell - MIC Hockey

TAS Firsts vs Farrer

Full of expectation the TAS Firsts travelled down the range to Tamworth last Friday for the annual clash against the Farrer opens team. After a 2-2 draw in 2013, one thing for sure was that Farrer would be no easy opponent, and right from the opening whistle this proved to be the case. TAS were on the back foot through some precision ball movement and confident skills shown by the Farrer midfielders who were able to connect with their forwards with regularity to trouble the TAS defence. Some indifferent choices and simple errors did not help the TAS cause and despite some instances of teamwork reminiscent of recent play in the B Grade HNE competition, the boys in blue were finding it difficult to penetrate the Farrer ‘D’. At the break, Farrer were up 3-nil with heads held high - a contrast to the shell shocked TAS players who had been made to work hard defensively in the Tamworth late afternoon sun.

Nevertheless, the boys banded together and were not about to give up. The second half saw TAS showing more resolve and with a greater use of the entire field, there were definitely more attacking opportunities being made. All players were commendable in their effort, however Farrer were a more capable team on the day and were moving the ball more fluidly to quickly put their forwards into the strike zone. Late in the second half TAS had an opportunity with Jonathan Chamberlain using good strength and poise to take the ball one on one to the Farrer goalkeeper who blatantly fouled to take Chamberlain out of the contest at the top of the circle. Jonno was rewarded with a penalty stroke however was unlucky not to be able to put the ball past the keeper’s diving glove and alas that is how TAS’ scoreline stayed for the remainder of the game. To add injury to insult, with about 15 left on the clock, Striker Hamish Coupland, after having a niggling back injury force him to the bench for part of the first half, suffered a sickening incident as an awkward low tackle caused his shoulder to partially dislocate, thus rendering his game complete.

Farrer put another couple of gems in the back of our net to finish the game with a 6-0 win.

Many thanks to all of the parents who travelled to support the boys and despite the loss, all relished the opportunity to compete off the home turfs.

TAS B Grade - Sunday 25 May

TAS B Grade met Servies B for their third clash of the season on Sunday. Coming off two close wins in their previous encounters, and undefeated, TAS were keen to continue the good run that has seen them deemed as a definite contender for the 2014 B Grade title. With keeper Will ‘The Hulk’ Brissett away, the very dedicated Jack Bishop stepped into the goals, following on from a good 2-1 win against Guyra in their previous C Grade game. From the start, TAS were moving the ball well with some quality play from all of the midfielders. Servies were definitely on fire and with a wealth of experience amongst some strong young players, they had found a good recipe for success and began to move the ball smartly around the field. Unlike us, they were passing early and leading onto the ball, whilst backing their attack up with rock solid defence that was hard to penetrate and punishing on lazy play which snuck into the TAS play later in the first half. Just before the half time siren, Servies hit the lead through a strong break which saw Bishop one on one with the Servies striker who did not need a second attempt.

Despite some good opportunities in the second half, TAS were finding it hard to get off decent strikes and were giving the Servies keeper a warm up at best. Down the other end, Servies were making backs Ball and Ferguson work hard to avoid another breakthrough, which eventually came to give the red, white and blue team a 2-0 advantage. This was how the scoreline remained until the final whistle and although only our first defeat for the season, it was a hard one to take given the reality that we could have and should have matched or dominated Servies in almost every area. Regardless, a good win to our opposition and a wake up call to give the red, white and blue team a 2-0 advantage. This was how the scoreline remained until the final whistle and although only our first defeat for the season, it was a hard one to take given the reality that we could have and should have matched or dominated Servies in almost every area. Regardless, a good win to our opposition and a wake up call to take Chamberlain out of the contest at the top of the circle. Jonno was rewarded with a penalty stroke however was unlucky not to be able to put the ball past the keeper’s diving glove and alas that is how TAS’ scoreline stayed for the remainder of the game. To add injury to insult, with about 15 left on the clock, Striker Hamish Coupland, after having a niggling back injury force him to the bench for part of the first half, suffered a sickening incident as an awkward low tackle caused his shoulder to partially dislocate, thus rendering his game complete.

Farrer put another couple of gems in the back of our net to finish the game with a 6-0 win.

Many thanks to all of the parents who travelled to support the boys and despite the loss, all relished the opportunity to compete off the home turfs.
**Music Matters**

**An entertaining evening was had by all at the Elective Music Soiree last Thursday**

Thank you to the Ensemble Directors, Year 9 & 10 music classes, TAS Singers, TAS Senior Jazz Combo and to our many solo instrumental and vocal performers who took to the stage to perform last Thursday. Thank you also to the appreciative audience members that came to support our music students. An Elective Music Soiree is a great way for our senior music students to gain performance experience and hone their performance skills. Besides this, the community has the opportunity to see and hear our talented music students.

**TAS Beginner Band**

It was lovely to see so many budding ensemble musicians last Wednesday. Don't forget that the next rehearsal is this Wednesday from 1pm and then come over to the music block by 1.15pm at the latest. Please remember to bring your own instrument with you.

Many thanks,
Ms Roobol, Mrs Butcher, Mr Finco and Mrs Broadbent

**The 2014 Eisteddfod has commenced!**

The Eisteddfod began yesterday with Choir Day and Choirs Night at Lazenby Hall, UNE. Coming up on Thursday next week the Junior Guitar Ensemble and Guitar Band will be performing and we wish them all the best. We will report more on the Eisteddfod over the coming weeks.

**What’s Hot at Hoskins?**

Mr O’Connell is very excited to announce that the auditions for the Middle School play are going to commence in Week 6 in the Hoskins Centre. An email will be sent around providing students with the details about how they can sign up for an audition time and what they need to prepare. The show itself remains shrouded in secrecy but the enthusiasm already being expressed by students in the Middle School guarantees that whatever play is performed it is going to be a fantastic, memorable experience for cast and audience members alike.

Any questions further to the email are encouraged to be directed to Mr O’Connell at aoconnel@as.edu.au or simply go find him in the Hoskins Centre.
By 1:30pm on Friday, this place could have suited the schoolyard scene from McCarthy’s amazingly, indeed, grippingly graphic novel, The Road. After a frenetic ‘feed and water’ station atmosphere in the dining hall at only 1:00pm, boys cattle fed into coaches to spend the late afternoon and early evening at Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School in Tamworth. Football, Rugby, Chess, Shooting teams, (you name it and there’s every likelihood there was a team playing or doing it) all boarded coaches and, within minutes, the only things left at School were a handful of boys and silence really. No ash though, thank goodness (a further reference to McCarthy’s award winner). From reports I’ve heard, all went well in whatever activity was undertaken. This kind of activity is, 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.

Oh, yes – and if you appreciate the values of circumspection, good old-fashioned political wisdom, or even the crisp clarity of a beautiful Autumn day in Armidale (we’ve been treated to loads of the latter over the last few weeks) and, if you’re in the mood for appreciation of opposites, you might look at McCarthy’s novel one day. But, I warn you, it’s graphic.

PSSA Cross Country – Friday 23 May

Well, what an amazing day we had out at Bellevue Oval last Friday for the annual PSSA Cross Country event. After walking the course, as the heavens opened upon us, we then settled back for the many age division races being held on the day.

All students ran with great enthusiasm and sportsmanship and should be pleased with their results.

Congratulations to the following students who achieved outstanding results, considering most divisions had over 60 competitors:

Harry Ashton – 2nd in 12 year boys
Liam Matherson – 6th in 12 year boys
Cotter Litchfield – 10th in 12 year boys
Sam Behrend – 12th in 12 year boys
Luke Evans – 14th in 12 year boys
Will Young – 16th in 12 year boys

Congratulations to the following team who won the age division trophy:

Harry Ashton, Liam Matherson, Cotter Litchfield and Sam Behrend who took out the 12 year boys division.

‘Time stops for’ no one

We’ve reached the half term mark – already. We’ve only four 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 the boys have their 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 boys to their use on a daily basis. Parents of day students need to be aware that the schedules are out and I ask that you speak to your sons about them and ask also how ‘best’ they are being ‘managed’ over the next few weeks.

In this amazingly (on a good day; frighteningly, on a stressful
one) competitive world, we can ill afford a situation where boys ‘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: boys 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. 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 someone performs under time conditions. Regardless of our line of work, we adults all have time frames to work within and deadlines to meet. A Middle School exam experience is one that allows boys 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 sons 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).

Mark Harrison

Year 6 PSSA Cross Country Team
PSSA Cross Country

Congratulations go to our PSSA Cross Country runners who represented the School last week. Having never been a long distance runner, I have always admired their determination. As you will read below, there were some fantastic results. Their desire to participate to the best of their ability was as evident as their enthusiasm to be a part of the team. We are very proud of them all and their excellent achievements.

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

Raising funds for the Cancer Council has been a focus for us for years and last week, with over $300 being donated, was no exception. That we can come together as a community for such a great cause means a lot to us and it was certainly a wonderful occasion, with morning tea supplied so generously by our families. I received comments from our parents that it was nice to meet some senior staff as well, and we thank them for supporting both the Junior School and the cause.

da Vinci Decathlon

This week, a group of students will be travelling to Sydney to compete in the da Vinci Decathlon. It is a wonderful experience, held at Knox Grammar School, with hundreds of other students. Along with a team from Year 6 the boys are Josiah Alcorn, Max Barnsley, Lachlan Gailbraith, Alexander Gibson, Henry Moore, Jude Piper, Tristan Rottcher and Jack van Roy. Combining their collective skills and understanding requires a good deal of persistence, but above all the ability to work together to get their ideas to meld. We wish them well for their travels and the competition and look forward to reporting back on their return.

Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads

Josiah Alcorn, Max Barnsley, Lachlan Gailbraith, Alexander Gibson, Henry Moore, Tristan Rottcher and Jack van Roy are all involved in this high-powered Mathematical competition. Under rigorous time and work conditions, these boys are competing on the big stage with other talented mathematicians, solving problems which show case their skills and understanding. It is an ongoing exercise that continues over the next few months and we wish them well, knowing that they have made an excellent start already.

Pupil free day in Junior School

Friday 6 June

Friday 6 June is a pupil free day at TAS as advertised. These days become a very important component of the professional development the School is able to offer. With the introduction of new curriculum in various subjects, this year English and next year Maths, we are constantly searching for improved practices in our classrooms. I look forward to communicating more about these and other curriculum developments soon. In the meantime, as a result of a BOSTES course I attended last night, I recommend to you the following website on Assessment. It goes some way to explaining assessment and many of the considerations required and can be useful to know a little of how it is approached.

http://arc.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

The Armidale Eisteddfod

Hot off the press this afternoon is the wonderful news about just how well the Junior School performed at the Choirs section today. As I noted to staff, and some of the parents who were able to be there, the performance of our choirs was impressive, given that they have had such a short time with Ms Leanne Roobol at the helm. TAS has a strong belief that our singing program is an important part of our offering and has been for years. Today demonstrated that the program was left in very good shape and that Leanne has made a wonderful contribution in a very short time. So, congratulations to our performers - your energy and enthusiasm was well rewarded.
Happy Birthday Wishes

We wish a very Happy Birthday to the following children who celebrate their birthdays this week:

Grace Pennington, Lachlan Costello, Ruby Broun, Thomas Rowe and Michael Janda.

Junior School Sport

PSSA Cross Country – Friday 23 May

Well, what an amazing day we had out at Bellevue Oval last Friday for the annual PSSA Cross Country event. After walking the course, as the heavens opened upon us, we then settled back for the many age division races being held on the day.

All students ran with great enthusiasm and sportsmanship and should be pleased with their results.

Congratulations to the following students who achieved outstanding results, considering most divisions had over 60 competitors:

Emily Buntine 2nd in 8/9 yrs girls
Poppy Broun 16th in 8/9 yrs girls
Sam Meehan 2nd in 8/9 yrs boys
Jonathan Harris 8th in 8/9 yrs boys
Chloe Moore 11th in 10 yrs girls
Hugo Caterall 9th in 10 yrs boys
Asher Game-Lopata 10th in 10 yrs boys
Stewart Williams 14th in yrs boys
Harry Ashton 2nd in 12 yrs boys
Liam Matherson 6th in 12 yrs boys
Cotter Litchfield 10th in 12 yrs boys
Sam Behrend 12th in 12 yrs boys
Luke Evans 14th in 12 yrs boys
Will Young 16th in 12 yrs boys

Congratulations to the following teams who won the age division trophies:

Sam Meehan, Jonathan Harris, Daniel Morgan and Lennox Neilson who took out the trophy for the best team in 8/9 yrs boys division.

Harry Ashton, Liam Matherson, Cotter Litchfield and Sam Behrend who took out the 12 yrs boys division.

Well done team!

School Uniform

A lot of children do not have the buttons on the end of their shirt sleeves. Could parents please check these for their children and attend to them if necessary?

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform, including shorts, socks and ties. Your support in upholding the standard of school uniform is appreciated.

Tamworth Eisteddfod

Congratulations to Dimity Chalmers on her wonderful results at the Tamworth Eisteddfod.

1st prize – Piano solo Restricted
1st prize – Australia Composition Piano solo AMEB Syllabus
2nd Classical Piano Solo AMEB Syllabus list

Canteen

The Term 2 Canteen List is uploaded to the website; please check costs of items prior to placing your order.

Looking Ahead

Wednesday 28 May  Year 4 Assembly
                     da Vinci team travel to Sydney
Thursday 29 May     You Can Do It Performance
                     da Vinci at Knox Grammar School
Wednesday 4 June    Year 1 Assembly
                     Soundscape musical performance
Friday 6 June        Pupil Free day -
                     Staff PD Day
Monday 9 June        Queen’s Birthday Long Weekend
Wednesday 11 June   Year 3 Assembly
                     Maths Olympiad (Year 5 only)
Football

Saturday 24 May – TAS Typhoons versus Ex-Services West Leopards

The Typhoons played extremely well this week and ended up winning 12-0 (Goals: Sam Meehan 8, Oliver Smart 2, Peter Evans 1 & Calin Simmonds 1).

This week we focused on running back to the halfway line for opposition goalie kick outs. As a result, this created plenty of space on the field to open up our forwards.

Well done to all the Typhoons.

Please note, this weekend (31 May) we play North Armidale Wizzards at North Armidale Oval 3 at 10.20am.

Mr Matt Meehan

TAS Tornadoes

The TAS Tornadoes had a 5-2 win over Guyra Rockets on Saturday. The team played very well. Marcus Hempel was the key to the win with 3 goals. Ben Rowe and Harry Price each scored excellent goals. Solomon and Chloe Lincoln displayed extremely sharp skills, which kept the Guyra team off-guard for most of the game. Congratulations to all members of the team.

Mr Ralph Hunt

TAS Trucks

The season is now into full swing and the enthusiasm from the team is encouraging. It was very impressive that so many boys were willing the assist the opposition when their numbers and skills were needed. Thank you to Will Gilpin who was happy to play with the opposing team for the entire game. It was good to see Toby Ford taking on the role of goalie for the second half with strong commitment. Overall, the boys performed well once again.

Mr Neil Druce

TAS Terriers

This week the Terriers had another tough game. The team is continuing to develop their skills and team work. Special mention this week goes to Henry who had an outstanding game in defence. Keep up the good work

Ms Jayne Heagney

Netball

TAS Turquoise Netball

The girls came up against a well-drilled and skillful VIP - CGA Rock stars team on Saturday. After a nervous beginning, the team began to play an impressive brand of netball. They consistently moved the ball up the court to enable opportunities for our shooters. The passing and movement of the ball was a real highlight and it was wonderful to witness impressive individual performances from Poppy Broun and Ruby Straker, in particular.

The girls are playing entertaining netball and the ongoing improvements are enabling the team to bring out the best in each other. Congratulations to one and all!!

Next Saturday, we meet the Minimbah Butterflies at 12pm on Court 1.

Mrs Alyssa Lincoln

TAS/PLC TOPAZ vs ACSC Gems

What an exciting and improved game TOPAZ played on Saturday when they met an evenly matched ACSC Gems. It was a game where the girls displayed an improved understanding of creating space and passing opportunities. Some excellent series of passes were also a feature of the game. Charlotte Portell was dynamite in her roles, playing a reliable and strong attacking position where she shot 2 goals, and later in the game, defending well too. Exciting play was also a highlight of Gabby Cotterell’s and Lily Moore's game with swift moving and excellent defending. Annabelle Pennington, Lillian Maxwell, Teya Catterell and Ruby Broun all showed wonderful improvements this week and their engagement in the game was very pleasing. Mia Lincoln played tirelessly, trying to always be in the right place to help her teammates while Scarlett Buntine played well, too, and added 2 neat goals to her tally. Millie Coupland and Milly Keeping tried to maintain concentration and took some very handy catches. Thank you to the Pennington family for providing oranges at half time and to all our sideline supporters for their encouragement. All in all, it was a great game to watch and I’m sure an even greater game to play!

Our next game is against the Uralla Baby Cats on Court 2 commencing at 12pm on Saturday.

Mrs Anne Trenerry
Hockey

Under 11’s Hockey

The team headed out to UNE to play one of the City teams last Friday. Many of the players had already run about 3km in the PSSA cross country but were keen to give it there all during the game. We didn't quite hit the highs we had in the previous week even though the players were trying really hard for the game. We still need to work on not taking the ball from our own players and spreading out around the field a bit more.

It was great to see the skills we worked on during training being put into place by a few players. Isabella Rutledge tried really hard to look for her own players when she had the ball instead of just hitting it wherever. It was great to see Zoe Strelitz working hard in the forwards and it was exciting to see the focus Isaac brought to the game this week. Upward and onward to next week to work on more skills.

Mrs Kirsty Brunsdon

Under 9’s Hockey

I am very impressed with all the players in our Under 9 team. Everyone is getting involved which is making improvements obvious. Once again TAS dominated Duval Tigers with their ability to pass the ball allowing them to easily get around their opposition particularly in the first half. The game saw Michael Janda dribbling the ball on his stick and some great passes. Alex Webber was moving the ball and attempting many tackles and Jonathan Harris made some great passes and runs with the ball. Conal Nicoll, Lennox Neilson, Blair Eichorn and Tom Ball are demonstrating fabulous skills, team work, defending and constantly working hard throughout the game. I am continually proud of how all the boys listen to my advice, demonstrate good sportsmanship and try their best. Well done Under 9’s.

Mrs Tania Ball
Warning signs of cyberbullying

Cyber-bullying is real
Many experts confirm that the psychological effects on our children can be as devastating, and may be even more so than traditional bullying. Research proves that when kids are left unsupervised and without behavior expectations traditional bullying thrives. We may not be doing as good a job as we think. Though studies vary as to the extent of cyber-bullying and if it is increasing, we know that is clearly concerning to any victim. The one common theme in most studies is that parents are too often unaware that their child is a victim or underestimate how often their child is cyberbullied.

REALITY CHECK: One survey found that while 93% of parents feel they have a good idea of what their kids are doing on the Internet; 41% of our kids say they don’t share with us what they do or where they go online.
REALITY CHECK: Another student found that while 30% of youths admit to having been cyberbullied, only slightly higher than 10% of their parents reported that they knew. The study also suggested that parents of younger teens — those who believe their child is smarter than others online, or who are not able to monitor their teen’s internet use — are more likely to be unaware that their child has been cyberbullied.

Open up that dialogue with your teen and listen! Know the signs so you can watch for them. And please recognize that your child may not come to you and share his ordeal. Most teens do not! Keep your antennae up. Monitor. Keep the relationships open. And stay educated so you can parent your digital kid.

Warning Signs of Cyber Bullying
- Tune into your children closer. Look for these possible signs of cyber bullying, but do know there may be others. Please read these warnings carefully.
- Talk to other parents, teachers, babysitters, counselors, and child workers about the signs as well.
- Print out the warnings and give them to coaches, scout leaders, Boys and Girls club leaders, doctors, school officials and to teens and tweens.
- Send a list to the newspaper to print.
- Ask your child’s school to post a list on their website. Get active! Get your community involved.
Here are 11 signs to watch for that may be warnings that your teen is being cyberbullied (and if not, then any of these signs are red flags to look into).

1. Hesitant to be online or unexpectedly stops or avoids using the computer
2. Nervous when an Instant Message, text or Email appears (Watch your child’s response)
3. Visibly upset, angry, or depressed after using the computer or cell phone
4. Hides or clears the computer screen or cell when you enter or doesn’t want to talk about online activity
5. Starts using the computer when you’re not in the room (a change in pattern)
6. Keeps going back and forth to check screen in shorter spurts
7. Withdraws from friends, wants to avoid school or peer activities or uneasy about going outside in general, pulls away from family members
8. A sudden sullen, evasive, withdrawn, marked change in personality or behavior
9. Trouble sleeping, loss of appetite, excessively moody or crying, seems depressed
10. Suspicious phone calls, e-mails and packages arrive at your home
11. Possible drop in academic performance or a falling behind in schoolwork

The key is to look for a pattern in your child. You should not overlook is a sudden change that is not your child’s “normal” behavior that lasts at least everyday for two weeks. But even then, use your instinct! If you are concerned, don’t wait. Get help! If these signs are not due to cyberbullying they clearly warrant looking into. Something is amiss with your child! Find out what’s going on. Dig deeper. Conference with your child’s teacher, coach, counselor, pediatrician, or seek the help of a trained mental health professional. But don’t think that this behavior is “a phase.” The two saddest words I hear from parents are “IF ONLY!” Get help! Do not expect your child will come and tell you about the harassment! Research says that chances are that your child will not tell which is why you need to tune in closer and get educated. Studies show that as our kids get old the likelihood they will come to us and “tell” declines even more.

A top reason kids say they aren’t telling adults: “The adult didn’t listen or believe the report when I did tell!” Sigh! If you suspect your child’s friend or peer is cyber-bullied, report it! For more information see: ‘What to Do If Your Child is Cyberbullied’.

I carry a photo of a young Canadian boy — a precious sixth grader — who ended his life because of bullying. His father gave me his son's photo and asked me to promise to keep educating parents about the dangers of bullying. I promised that dad I would keep going and I’ve carried that photo for ten years. It breaks me apart every time I look at that photo.

Listen! Tune in! Believe! Please!

Source

Cyberbullying is an electronic form of communication that uses cyber-technology or digital media to hurt, threaten, embarrass, annoy, blackmail or otherwise target another minor. Every adult who interacts with kids – parents, educators, librarians, police, pediatricians, coaches, child care givers – must get educated about this lethal new form bullying so you can find ways to stop this horrific trend.

One reason for such a dramatic increase in cyber-abuse is that it’s just so much easier to be cruel when you don’t have to lash out with vicious insinuations face to face and you can do so anonymously!

Where we once thought we just had to protect children from adult predators using the Internet, we now need to shield kids from one another.

One of the best sources of information is the Cyberbullying Research Center from Justin Patchin and Sameer Hinduja. Bookmark it on your computer! Also, put Nancy Willard’s book, Cyberbullying and Cyberthreats is also a must to add to your list. (Do also be wary of all the cyber-bullying stats out there which are largely inaccurate or use faulty methodology. The one commonality in studies show that parents too often underestimate how often their children are cyberbullied.

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