Old Boys’ Weekend

Last weekend was, by any measure, the fullest of the year. The combination of the annual Old Boys’ Weekend and the visit of Newington for a full set of rugby fixtures brought huge crowds to the School and the activity was non-stop from Friday afternoon to lunch on Sunday. After the Old Boys’ golf afternoon, competition began with our 1st team taking on the 20 year leavers in the very entertaining debate “TAS boys aren’t what they used to be”. The activity continued on Saturday with early morning hockey, chess, tennis, shooting, football and touch rugby, with the balance of the spoils and the Croft Cup going to the Old Boys. Alongside this friendly competition were dinners for year group reunions, the annual Belltower Society brunch for our most senior Old Boys, chapel and the special Jock Perkins Memorial Art Show which brought our 5 year leavers and their parents together in solidarity to remember a fine young man who left us too early.

As I commented at our Middle and Senior School assembly yesterday, Old Boys’ Weekend sees our school and our students on show and it is inevitable that those past generations will make their own judgements on the changes they see and the people they meet. The feedback through the weekend, particularly regarding our current students and the way they carry themselves, was glowing and a credit to our students.

I offer special thanks to Newington College for their visit, particularly as their Year 12 is in the midst of Trial HSC exams. As their Deputy Headmaster commented at the function following the 1st XV fixture, the relationship between Newington and TAS has a history spanning well over 100 years and it continues to be a happy and positive one. The games on Saturday were once again played in excellent spirit and it was a pleasure to have the Newington boys and their coaches as our guests.

Sydney Boys’ High School

The activity will continue next weekend as Sydney High visit for a gala weekend of activities. The Sydney High weekend is quite special and extends well beyond rugby. It has become the tradition for High to travel to us each year, which is greatly appreciated, and to stay for two nights. From Friday afternoon to Saturday night our schools will compete in tennis, basketball, shooting, football, rugby, relays and debating. It is fitting that this is our final home fixture for the winter season and I look forward to welcoming Sydney High and seeing plenty of home support as well.

‘Freedom’ the Movie

Notable Old Boy and great friend of the School Peter Cousens has made the break from stage to screen with a new major motion picture ‘Freedom’ which opens at the Belgrave Cinema in Armidale this weekend. The movie trailer and storyline can be found at http://themoviefreedom.com/video/.

The TAS Foundation is supporting this big achievement by one of our own and presenting the special offer of two tickets for $25 for the TAS family. You will find the link to this in the Development Office section of this edition of TAS Talks.

Best Wishes to Mr Lloyd

I am sure that all will join me in wishing our Head of Junior School, Ian Lloyd, well as he takes leave from tomorrow for knee surgery. Mr Lloyd will be back with us at the beginning of next term and we look forward to seeing him upright and well.
**Term 3 - Week 6**

**Wednesday 20 August**
- Junior School Open Day 10am - 12noon
- HSC Trials continue
- Year 9 Geography Excursion (Coffs)
- Ag Quip, Gunnedah
- 6.30pm Chapel - Evening Prayer

**Thursday 21 August**
- HSC Trials continue
- Ag Quip, Gunnedah
- 6.30am Ag Quip, Gunnedah Years 9, 10 and 11 Ag and Primary Industries classes
- 5.30 Twilight Concert, Hoskins Centre

**Friday 22 August**
- HSC Trials continue
- 6pm Celia Lashlie Presentation, Hoskins Centre
- Sydney Boys High School arrive

**Saturday 23 August**
- TAS vs Sydney High at TAS

**Sunday 24 August**
- Year 10 First Aid Course, Day 2

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**Term 3 - Week 7**

**Monday 25 August**
- Winter Sports Photos
- HSC Drama Practical Exams

**Tuesday 26 August**
- a.m. Winter Sports Photos in McConville Centre
- University of Newcastle, Science and Engineering Challenge

**Wednesday 27 August**
- Brainstorm production
- Years 7, 8, 9 in Gym
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer
- 6.45pm HSC Art - Masterstroke Visual Arts Exhibition
- 7.00pm P&F Fete Meeting
- 7.15pm HSC Music - Final Note Performance

**Thursday 28 August**
- Year 12 MTA Assessment Day

**Friday 29 August**
- 1.30pm Rugby departs for Riverview Sydney

**Saturday 30 August**
- Rugby - TAS vs Riverview, Sydney

**Sunday 31 August**
- 9.00am French Extension HSC Oral Exam

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**Term 3 - Week 8**

**Monday 1 September**
- 1.20pm POP Practice
- 3.40pm POP Rehearsal - Year 12

**Tuesday 2 September**
- NICS Tennis - Grafton All Stars Debate

**Wednesday 3 September**
- da Vinci Decathlon at TAS
- 2.00pm Musica Viva
- 3.40pm POP Rehearsal - Year 12

**Thursday 4 September**
- da Vinci Decathlon at TAS
- 1.20pm POP Practice
- 3.40pm POP Rehearsal - Year 12
- 6.00pm Magistrate Karen Stafford to speak to Year 9-12 students and parents

**Friday 5 September**
- da Vinci Decathlon at TAS
- 12.30pm NE Sings Secondary Choir Rehearsal
- 6.30pm Rifle Club Dinner

**Saturday 6 September**
- 9.00am Japanese Continuers HSC Oral Exam

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**Term 3 - Week 9**

**Monday 8 September**
- Year 11 End of Course Exams
- 1.20pm POP Practice
- 3.40pm POP Rehearsal - Year 12

**Tuesday 9 September**
- Year 11 End of Course Exams
- HSC Music 1 Practical Markers at TAS

**Wednesday 10 September**
- Year 11 End of Course Exams
- HSC Music 2 Practical Markers at TAS

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**MEDICAL CENTRE**

There are a large number of our students affected by viral illnesses at the moment.

We ask that parents keep students at home if they are obviously unwell. These viruses are usually spread by droplet so we ask that students returning to school are supplied with tissues and are educated in cough etiquette ie cough into tissue, dispose of tissue, clean hands with soap & water or hand gel.
**Too Far Jesus! Jesus says cut off your bits. Matthew 5:28-30**

I don't know if you have in your group of mates, one friend who has the reputation for going too far. He always goes over the top. Spare a thought for the disciples – Jesus' closest mates.

Jesus always seemed to take the conversation over the edge. Take for example his discussion on the seriousness of sin. He says if your eye causes you to sin – gouge it out; if your hand causes you to sin chop it off.

Is Jesus really calling people to mutilate themselves? If so, TF Jesus!

Let me say – very clearly – Jesus is not calling people to start chopping off their members – what he is saying is take sin seriously, take eternal life seriously, take drastic action so that life may be held on to, and if sin is causing you to throw your faith away, make the cut. Stop watching that TV show or that internet site, make the break with that group of friends, do what is necessary to avoid sin. Value life.

You will remember Aaron Ralston the climber who became trapped when an 360kg boulder shifted, crushed his hand, and pinned him to the canyon wall.

Trapped and facing certain death, Ralston chose a final option using a multitool. He valued his physical life so much he painstakingly chopped his hand off so that he might be freed. He took life seriously.

As for the pain Aaron says, “overall, it was a hundred times worse than any pain I've felt before. At the same time, it was also the most beautiful thing I've ever felt.”

Jesus, the one who urges in this reading to take sin seriously – to love life, eternal life, gave his own life, not just a limb, so that we might live, he took it seriously.

Jesus says take eternal life so seriously that you will go to extreme lengths to hang on to it, to hang on to the life that Jesus made possible through his own life and death, don't allow your hold on things in this life – which pass away to be tighter than your grip on eternal life that will never fade.

**WELLBEING**

This Friday 22 August the prominent researcher, writer and presenter Celia Lashlie, will speak in the Hoskins Centre. Her book *He'll Be Okay – Growing Gorgeous Boys into Good Men* has been a tremendous success and, when she last visited TAS a few years ago, she spoke powerfully and in a wonderfully entertaining way to a packed Hoskins Theatre. She addresses the typical journeys and challenges faced by boys and, most importantly, their parents, offering very specific advice that differs considerably for Mums and Dads.

The other is the local Magistrate, Karen Stafford, who has kindly offered to speak on Thursday 4 September to a combined audience of parents and boys (Years 9-12) on issues related to adolescents and the law. Her manner is honest and raw, and she will be examining matters mainly concerning sexual behaviour and consent, cyber-safety and the use of alcohol (including drink driving and supply). While this is her first time speaking at TAS, we have heard wonderful things about similar presentations she has made at other schools.

I hope many of you can make it to one or both of these evenings.

Mr Barney Buntine
Director of Pastoral Care

**LOST PROPERTY**

Nick Moore of Year 10 Croft House has had his navy 2014 NZ Rugby Tour backpack with the number 22 (in white print) clearly on the side go missing. Unfortunately it contained his laptop, books and pencil case.

He left it outside his classroom while he went to the parent teacher interviews Friday 15 August from 2.30pm until 3.40pm. When he returned to pick it up, it was gone. Nick has completed a thorough search and the bag cannot be located. If you know it’s whereabouts, could you please let Nick or Reception know.

Thomas Price in Year 7 is missing his grey jumper and Akubra. Both items have his name in them. Could you please check your son’s uniform in case he has picked up Thomas’ jumper or Akubra by mistake?
Year 9 and Year 11 2015 Subject Selections

Year 8 and 10 students have now received an email outlining how to access the online subject selection form for their 2015 subjects. This email includes a Webcode that must be used to access their individual page. Parents are also receiving an email with this information so that they are able to be part of this process and to confirm what students have selected. Students have until late next week to complete the form before decisions are being made regarding subjects that will be running at TAS in 2015.

Parents are asked to print off the finalised subject selection, sign it and return it to Mrs Evans (for Year 8) or Mrs O’Brien (for Year 10).

I am visiting boarding houses to answer questions that students may have and have fielded many questions from day boys either directly or via email over the last few days. This is an important process and there is no such thing as a silly question.

Please feel free to send through any queries via email (swark@as.edu.au) or to call me on 6776 5806.

ACADEMIC

On Tuesday 19 August, Year 10 Extension Mathematics/Science students were involved in a video conference with world renowned astrobiologist and planetary scientist Dr Chris McKay from NASA Ames in California. The conference, “If we find alien life on Mars, what would it look like and should we help it?”, was facilitated by the Powerhouse Museum and our class was one of three schools involved. Charlie Wyatt had the opportunity to ask Dr McKay a question he had formed prior to the video conference about Mars and his career as an astrobiologist for NASA. Angus Lloyd also presented a question to Dr McKay during the video conference which had been formed by Angus Simmons. The video conferencing supports the start of our new module of work from the Powerhouse Museum, Project Mars, which will see the boys given the opportunity to remotely drive the Mars Yard Rover. The Mars Yard Rover is based on the Mars Rover “Opportunity” and provides students with a rich and authentic learning experience, as they develop skills in both driving and data analysis from results obtained by the Rover’s Mass Spectrometer.

Miss Nicci Hilton

EXCURSION TO AGQUIP

Ag Quip 2014

Agriculture and Primary Industry students in Years 9, 10 and 11 will be attending Ag Quip at Gunnedah on Thursday 21 August.

The bus will leave the school at 6:30am and return at approximately 6:00pm. Cost of the excursion will be $30 and this will be charged to student accounts. Boys should wear blues jeans, grey winter shirt, grey winter jumper, TAS cap or TAS Akubra and polished covered work boots. Boys may also bring their TAS blue and white sport jacket if it’s cold.

Mr Michael Ball and Mr Trevor Thatcher will accompany the students.

Mr Mike Ball
Agriculture Co-ordinator
TAS was well represented at the special New England Schools Remember commemorative service in Central Park Armidale last Wednesday. Held to commemorate the centenary of the start of the First World War, the service was led by students from schools from across the region. Nicholas Finney recited the Ode of Remembrance, and along with Chloe Lincoln of Year 4, laid a wreath in remembrance of this Old Boys and Staff from TAS who gave their lives in active service. In his last official duty as school bugler, Clarence Butcher played the Last Post and Reveille. HSIE students from Year 10 and Year 7, as well as all of Year 4, represented the broader student body.

*Pictured: Chloe Lincoln and Nicholas Finney laid a wreath on behalf of the school, at the New England Schools Remember commemorative service in Armidale on Wednesday.*

### LEADERSHIP, SERVICE AND ADVENTURE

**TAS TALKS — 5**

**YEAR 8 FIJI SERVICE TRIP**

**PLEASE DONATE SHEETS FOR FIJI**

With just five weeks until we leave, the 2014 Fiji contingent are keen to collect (preferably) new single bed sheets to take over to St Christopher’s Home. Flat or fitted, any colour. If you can help us, we would be most appreciative!

Donations can be dropped into the Middle School.

Ms Fiona Taber  
2014 Fiji Coordinator

### P&F ASSOCIATION

**SUE CARTWRIGHT - PRESIDENT**

**RazzmaTAS Fete - 1 November**

Our next meeting for the fete will be held at 7 pm next Wednesday 27 August in Lower Maxwell – by which time you should have heard from your Liaison Parents who will be contacting everyone to get assistance for your year group’s activity or stall.

Please come to the meeting with all your ideas and, importantly, your requests for assistance – table/tent/float/supplies. We will be locking in layout and final details. If you cannot make it, please email me with your ideas or requests – scartwr2@une.edu.au

But to get you started we have a couple of early requests:

* Pots - all shapes and sizes are needed to pot up plants for the plant stall. Just collect them all up and bring them in as soon as you can.

* Manure - we are looking for properties that may need to have underneath the shearing shed cleared out. We hope to be able to organise community service hours for the boys and just need offers of sheds and shovels, and collections of chaff bags to fill. Please contact me if you can help, or need help.

* White Elephant – a very successful stall at the Fete every year is the White Elephant – and what a wonderful opportunity for us all to clear out those bits and pieces no longer used by our families. So as you clean out your garage/shed/attic/cellar/kids rooms just put it all to one side ready to deliver to the school next term.

On another note, the P&F is proud to be subsidising the visit by Celia Lashlie this Friday night. If you haven’t already done so, book now at www.trybooking.com/FNAL
THE ARMIDALE SCHOOL CADET UNIT
PASSING OUT PARADE

Passing Out Parade for all cadets in Year 8 and above will be held on Adamsfield on Sunday 14 September. Boys will be required from 8.30am - 12.30pm. This is a compulsory activity for all cadets.

Uniforms will be issued in Week 5 on Friday Period 4 and 5 for Year 8, and Period 6 and 7 for Year 9. Leaders and Year 10 boys are to get to the Q Store at lunchtime for their uniform issue.

Uniforms will be ironed by the school laundry staff and stored at school.

Parade training schedule is listed below:

**Week 7**
- Wednesday 27 August – Lunchtime 1.20 to 1.55pm. Adamsfield
  Years 11 (sword drill) and 12 Rehearsal 3.40 – 5.00pm
- Thursday 28 August - Lunchtime 1.20 to 1.55pm. Adamsfield
  Years 11 (sword drill) and 12 Rehearsal 3.40 – 5.00pm

**Week 8**
- Monday 1 September - Lunchtime 1.20 to 1.55pm. Adamsfield
  Year 12 Rehearsal 3.40 – 5.00pm
- Wednesday 3 September – Afternoon 3.30 - 5.00pm Adamsfield
  Year 12 Rehearsal 3.40 – 5.00pm
- Thursday 4 September - Lunchtime 1.20 to 1.55pm. Adamsfield
  Year 12 Rehearsal 3.40 – 5.00pm

**Week 9**
- Monday 8 September - Lunchtime 1.20 to 1.55pm. Backfield
  Year 12 Rehearsal 3.40 – 5.00pm
- Thursday 11 September - 1.30 - 3.30pm. Backfield
  Year 12 Rehearsal 3.40 – 5.00pm
- Friday 12 September - 1.30 - 3.30pm Adamsfield
  Year 12 Rehearsal 3.40 – 5.00pm

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**BOARDERS TRAVEL**

Boarder parents are reminded that the end of Term 3 is fast approaching and bookings may be submitted now for the September vacation.

Dates of travel for are:
Depart:  Friday 19 September
Returning on:  Monday 6 October

It will be appreciated if your bookings are submitted prior to 21 August to msadler@as.edu.au

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The Headmaster, Mr Murray Guest and Commanding Officer Cadets, Major Trevor Thatcher request the pleasure of your company at

The Annual Ceremonial Passing Out Parade of The Cadet Unit
on Adamsfield
Sunday 14 September, 2014 at 11.00am

Reviewing Officer
Brigadier B C Boss CSC
Adjutant-General of the Army

Military personnel are invited to meet in the Archdall Room at 10.20am
Dress for the occasion: Service Dress with medals

followed by Lunch in the School Dining Hall

RSVP: 6776 5800 (TAS Reception) or email: reception@as.edu.au by Monday 8 September

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TAS TALKS — 6
Winter Photos

Winter photos will be taken at school on Monday 25 August and Tuesday 26 August.

All information regarding the schedule and what to wear can be found HERE.

Following photos being taken, all families will receive an order form from the photographers, MSP New England which will explain in detail the ordering, payment and delivery system.

As on previous occasions, no costs associated with photos may be placed on school accounts with payment instead to be made directly to MSP.

Any enquiries may be directed to Mrs Karen Hutton at khutton@as.edu.au

Rugby

Old Boys Weekend and Newington Fixture

The Old Boys were happy and the farmers were ecstatic as the rain poured down on Backfield. The boys enjoyed the opportunity to be involved in the contest and played some of their best rugby this season. For full list of results go to http://wordpress.as.edu.au/rugby/2014/08/18/results-v-newington/. This weekend against Sydney Boys High School, will be our last opportunity to play at Home this season and for our Year 12’s their last game on Backfield. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Mr Will Caldwell
MIC Rugby

In addition to regular fixtures, the following catch up games will be played on Sunday 24 August:

3rd XI vs Norths 11am Phil Wheaton Oval
2nd XI vs Norths 1pm Phil Wheaton Oval
1st XI vs Norths 3pm Phil Wheaton Oval

TAS are on Nets Duty this Saturday at the Rologas fields. Any assistance is greatly appreciated. Can you please let Luke Polson know if you are available to assist on Saturday morning.

Mr Luke Polson
MIC Football

Football

All latest draws for this coming Saturday 23 August can be found at:

Hockey

TAS Firsts vs Old Boys

Early Saturday morning saw the TAS Firsts students go up against a host of Old Boy players from Armidale and beyond in the inaugural TAS Firsts vs Old Boys hockey fixture. Fuelled by some hot tea, coffee, toast and muffins, provided by the wonderful Suzie Wright and Lou Moffatt, players and coaches alike were keenly anticipating the game that would unfold.

From the onset, the competition was stiff, with great passing and ball movement from both teams. Midway through the first half, Sterling George drilled a ball past Old Boys keeper Sebastian Hempel to put the boys one up. It took a good half hour of play and many missed chances for the Old Boys to break even. However through the play of a former TAS Firsts player from 2013 - Michael Young, they scored. With the game tied at the siren, an 8 second one-on-one shootout saw the Old Boys come up trumps. Well done to all and bring on 2015!

Mr Alex Portell
MIC Hockey
Hockey

TAS Under 13’s

TAS 1 managed to beat a well drilled Ex-Services team on Friday night 6-2. Lochlan Nicoll played well in goals for the third week in a row and was ably supported by the strong efforts of a mid-field that were determined to shut down the fast moving Ex-Services forwards. Sebastian Etheridge had a superb match up front scoring three goals and setting up numerous opportunities within the attacking half. I was really impressed with how the boys played as a team and fought to the end. Their commitment to each other is commendable.

Mr Campbell Nicoll

MUSIC MATTERS

AMEB Results

Thank you to those students who have already sent through their AMEB results. Congratulations to students on your hard work and results. We will be publishing all results next week so please keep in touch so we can celebrate your achievements!

HSC Music Performance Showcase

'Final Note' the HSC Music Performance Showcase is on Wednesday evening 27 August.

Year 12 Music 1 and Music 2 students are working very hard in preparation for their HSC performance examinations coming up in Week 9 this term. Each student will be performing up to four vocal or instrumental pieces with a piano accompanist or an ensemble. There has been an enormous amount of time spent by HSC music students to rehearse, practice and prepare for these performance exams.

We will be showcasing performances from each student next Wednesday evening 27 August in the inaugural 'Final Note' concert which will be held in the Hoskins Centre. The concert is free and will be a wonderful programme of exciting repertoire. We hope you can come!

Twilight Concert this Thursday 5.30pm

Tomorrow evening we will hold another Twilight Concert for our TAS instrumental, vocal and for the first time - our Speech and Drama students. The concert will commence at 5.30pm in the theatre of the Michael Hoskins Creative Arts Centre. Students are required to wear formal uniform and will be able to rehearse with Mr Warwick Dunham from 3.30pm in the afternoon before the concert. These are free concerts and everyone is welcome to attend.

Ms Roobol, Mrs Butcher, Mr Finco and Mrs Broadbent
Ally Bray, Morgan Broadbent-Wicks, Clarence Butcher, Duncan Carmichael, Sarah Collins, Nicholas Hadfield, Tessa Haron, Emily Morrice, Shannon Neeson, Will Smith, Ella Tindal, Patrick Williamson

Final Note

A Showcase of HSC Music Performances

Wednesday August 27th, 7:15pm
Following Masterstroke
TAS Hoskins Centre

This is a free event. All welcome
Bookings not necessary
WHAT’S HOT AT HOSKINS

Masterstroke
HSC Visual Arts Exhibition

Wednesday, 27th August
From 18:45 / Speeches at 19:10
Followed by Final Note (Music)
Freedom for 2 – only $25 !!

One of TAS’ best known and favourite old boys, Peter Cousens has spent the last couple of years in the US directing his first blockbuster movie which will be released in Armidale this weekend.

This is your opportunity to purchase two tickets to see the movie for just $25. All you need to do is click on the link below and you can download the voucher and take it to the Belgrave Cinema to redeem your tickets.

Starring Cuba Gooding Junior and William Sadler and with cinematography by Dean Cundey (Back to the Future, Apollo 13, Jurassic Park), Freedom tells the story of The Underground Railroad which in the southern state of the US in the 1860’s was a secret network of hiding places for brave people who helped runaway slaves reach freedom. This powerful story centres on two men in their desperate fight for freedom; one a slave in 1856 who escapes slavery and is pursued by a slave hunter while he tries to get his family to safety in Canada. The other is the Captain of a slave trader ship who, 100 years earlier in 1748 sails from Africa with a cargo of slaves bound for America. The two stories are bound together in a tightly woven story of courage.

Have a look at the movie website www.themoviefreedom.com and if you would like to purchase this excellent Value Voucher, click HERE and print the voucher.

Please note – it is rated M !

Ms Cressida Mort

The Armidale School
Parents & Friends Association Presents...

International Bestselling
Writer and Storyteller

CELIA LASHLIE
- LIVE

On ‘Growing Gorgeous Boys into Good Men’

TAS Hoskins Centre
6pm, 22 August
Tickets $10

www.trybooking.com/FNAL Phone: (02) 6776 5800
The rain didn’t dampen the spirits of more than 1000 Old Boys and their partners who returned to Armidale for various activities from Friday to Sunday for Old Boys Weekend. Jointly organised by the OBU Committee and the Development Office, the festivities started with the annual OB Golf Day, before the focus then moved to the Hoskins Centre for the second Old Boys v School debate, where three 20 year leavers and the TAS Firsts debating team argued the topic that TAS Boys Aren’t What They Used To Be. With points at a draw, the adjudicator (The Headmaster) gave it to the Old Boys on the basis they were better sledgers!

A good crowd gathered for the Jock Perkins Memorial Art Show, jointly hosted by the five year leavers and the Perkins family. Sporting competitions began early on Saturday, with two new additions to the program - hockey out at the UNE hockey fields (which the Old Boys won in a penalty shootout) and Chess in the Archdall Room, which TAS won 2-1. TAS won the tennis, the Old Boys won the shooting, the football was a draw, and the touch football also went to the Old Boys, ensuring the OBU retained the Croft Cup.

Other events included a brunch for the Bell Tower Society (Old Boys 70+) on Saturday morning, a near-capacity Annual Union Dinner in the Dining Hall, and reunion functions for 5, 10, 20 and 30 year leavers at various locations in Armidale on Saturday night. A well-attended Chapel Service and the OBU AGM rounded out the weekend, on Sunday morning.

The weekend would not have been possible without the support of the whole school community. Special thanks must go to Mr Guest for allowing Old Boys Weekend to be held on the grounds and to Director of Co-Curricular Mr Jason Lincoln for his support of the weekend being held on a GPS home game weekend. Thanks, also, to the TAS sporting coaches who also had to manage special school teams to play the Old Boys, those who helped with functions at the Hoskins Centre, the grounds, kitchen and housekeeping staff, and particularly, Donna Jackson and the TAS Development Office for their organisation and hard work.

Special thanks must also go to the TAS boys for helping make the weekend such a success – those who competed against the Old Boys (and in many cases, had to front up for other sporting commitments later in the day), those who supported them (especially at the hockey, at the shooting and at chess), and those who volunteered their time as tour guides, car parking attendants and waiters at the dinner.

On behalf of the OBU, our appreciation to everyone who helped make the weekend the success it was.

Mark Berry
OBU President
I lied

Last week I wrote about longer days, wattle being out, weather threatening warmer times to come. This week I admit I'm in Armidale and that such a forecast / prediction was extremely unwise. We've boys 'down for the count'; boys away and staff who are looking a little 'worse for wear' – not so much from teaching and learning, but from running in the opposite direction to the flu. This week we have rain (a wonderful thing), blustery and blasting wind (not the best thing) and single figure temperatures (definitely the worst thing) – and this combination is going to last for several days. So, if you're the parent of a day boy and he's unwell, do him a favor and let him 'lie low' because battling the elements won't make him feel much better.

I only wrote the above heading to get your attention – it's a better than 'I should have known' I reckon. Yes, it's amazingly cold and I guess this is the one aspect of an Armidale winter we should expect, regularly. Considering everything though, we're managing remarkably well and life continues reasonably normally.

Old Boys’ Weekend

While boys of Middle School age don’t normally play a major role on such occasions, ours did present to the games and other activities this last weekend. They acquitted themselves well, too – especially, by virtue of geography, our boarding students. In terms of the concept of school spirit it is good, I think, that the activities of such a weekend allow them to witness, first hand, the attachment to and fondness for their school that former students have for TAS. Despite the weather, there were really good numbers of Old Boys here and it was interesting to note how interested they were in the philosophy of Middle School, how it ‘works’ for us and, more importantly, for current students.

Sports

As well you know, this term is a very busy one for all sports. The rugby away games combine with home (game) commitments and thus far the boys are ‘holding their own’ really well. The term is flying by and there is only one more away game, at Riverview, in two weekends time. Most students enjoy these opportunities to travel and the arrangements for such travel are carefully organised to have as little disruption as possible on their ‘other’ lives. I’m going to try hard to get to the final rugby games as the occasions are special ones. I think I’ve mentioned this before, but I seem to see as many parents at these games as I do at other organised activities at school requiring parental involvement. The boys are lucky indeed to have such supportive families. I do know they appreciate your active involvement in their sporting lives.

There are times of course when we should acknowledge individual achievements. In particular, I want to bring to your attention both Nick Barnier and Duncan Chalmers. In addition to everything else they do, both boys have, through their efforts distinguished themselves in sports. Both ‘ran water’ for all three Under 13s Rugby teams against Scots last Saturday and then went on to play tennis in Moree on Sunday, achieving real regional distinction for Under 13s Tennis. Specifically Nick won this tennis and Duncan qualified for Zone Championships. Both Year 7 boys deserve public recognition – not only have both gone ‘above and beyond’ their normal commitments, but both have done so without drawing attention to themselves so it's my pleasure to recognize their wonderful achievements.

Every now and then I give you information about what we're doing in Ethics classes. Amongst other things, at the moment we're looking at the reasons why adults with whom we're closely associated tell us to do those things we don't want to do and why they tell us not to do things when we actually want to do them. We're also examining the concept of responsibility to others and for self. Those of you out there who consider yourselves to be ‘ethics aware’ may wonder how these issues fit exactly the parameters of this ‘discipline’, but I need to remind you about the flexibility that attaches to the lessons. They generally feature issues that are topical at various times of the term. Above all else, the lessons align themselves, wherever possible, with aspects of positive psychology that are so important to our jobs in the School.

Hey, it's raining!
Mr Mark Harrison
HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL,
IAN LLOYD

Junior School Open Day

Today has been the culmination of a good deal of strategic planning and preparation by a huge number of staff from across the School. Promoting the Junior School within our community is important to us all and it is not an area that has received a good deal of attention in recent years. I thank those involved for the major event that it was, and on behalf of all the staff would like to say we have appreciated the support received. We believe we are heading in a very positive direction and promoting that beyond these walls helps us significantly with our journey.

Jump Rope for Heart

The students have been successfully generating a good deal of interest and donations for this program and at last checked, well over $1000 had been raised. We will be signing off on our online donations soon and so if you do intend to participate, please do so as before the end of next week and I congratulate all the students involved.

Hanna Shield

At the time of writing, our teams for the Hanna Shield Swimming competition are heading out the door and we will them well.

The teams consist of:
- **10 and Under Freestyle Relay - boys**: Tom Ball, Sam Ball, Archi Lawrence, Ben Rowe
- **10 and Under Medley Relay - boys**: Asher Game-Lopata, Tom Ball, Sam Ball, Archi Lawrence
- **10 and Under Freestyle Relay - girls**: Ruby Straker, Sophia Rutledge, Isabella Rutledge, Zoe Strelitz
- **10 and Under Medley Relay - girls**: Ruby Straker, Sophia Rutledge, Isabella Rutledge, Zoe Strelitz
- **11 yrs and Over Freestyle Relay – boys**: Oscar Henzell, Joseph Anderson, Charlie Rutledge, Lucas Cotterell
- **11 yrs and Over Medley Relay – boys**: Oscar Henzell, Joseph Anderson, Charlie Rutledge, Lucas Cotterell, Tom Ball, Sam Ball, Archi Lawrence, Ben Rowe

And finally....

I will be on leave for the remainder of term, having a troublesome knee dealt with. I leave the Junior School in the very capable hands of Mrs Christine Wright who will be dealing with day to day matters ably supported by Mrs Veronica Waters and the entire staff, knowing that with their experience, the school will run very smoothly. We welcome Ms Tabitha Dowse back to Junior School to assist in the covering of classes. If you have any questions during my time away, please refer to Mrs Christine Wright, or to Ms Fiona Chappell who also will be in touch with me while I am away.
Looking Ahead

Wednesday 20 August  
Year 2 Assembly  
Junior School Open Day 10 -12pm  
Jump Rope for Heart, Jump Off

Monday 25 August  
Winter Photos

Tuesday 26 August  
Kindergarten Assembly

Wednesday 27 August  
TAS Junior Vocal Ensemble to Autumn Lodge 10 -11am  
Newcastle Permanent Maths Challenge

Wednesday 3 September  
Musica Viva performance

Friday 5 September  
da Vinci Decathlon at TAS

Illness

With so much illness in Armidale at the moment, we again ask that any child who has been vomiting, had diarrhoea or a temperature, to remain at home for 24 hrs from the last signs of illness.

New England Schools Remember

On Wednesday the 13 August 2014 at 10.30am, Year 4 walked to Central Park for a ceremony to commemorate 100 years since World War One began. It was to remember all of those who fought for us and the future of our country in World War One. Many of the soldiers died but some came back to tell the stories, however they were all seen as heroes. Chloe Lincoln and Nick Finney laid the wreath for TAS on the memorial stone along with the other Armidale schools. Jessica Lewis organised the ceremony for Armidale Schools and some important guest speakers came along. It was a lovely thing to do with other schools. Throughout the ceremony Year 4 remembered that the soldiers fought for us and it was very important and brave and made today how it is. Many interesting speeches were made, expressing the importance of the war and in one case talking about the age of some soldiers being as young as 14. Poems and prayers were read by students to commemorate the event. The youngest was in year 6. A minute’s silence was held to remember. The national anthem and the guard of honour closed the ceremony and then we walked back to TAS.

Zoe Strelitz  
Year 4

JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT

Football

Under 7’s

The boys played an outstanding game this week and drew with their well matched opponents. The whole team should be congratulated on their sportsmanship, sharing their half time oranges with the other team. Lance Latham had a brilliant defensive game, as did Ted Chick. Ty Schalk-O’Brien and Illes Baker should be congratulated on their attack and shots at goal. Overall the boys had a great team game.

Ms Jayne Heagney

TAS Typhoons v South Armidale Stallions

Well done TAS Typhoons for an absolutely wonderful team performance on Saturday in which you never stopped supporting each other and kept going until the final whistle in what was a very close and exciting match. Every player on the day made a huge contribution to a thrilling victory and each one of you should feel enormously proud for what you did. Conal Nicol and Charlie Repin played their best game of the season to date, Calin Simmonds and Lachie Hunt chased down every ball while Will Nash made a great effort in goats and on the field. Peter Evans showed bravery to keep going until the very end after taking a small knock early in the game, he never stopped. Jasper O’Neil surprised everyone with his attack and was strong in defence and Oliver Smart came along to cheer from the sides and ended up on the field delivering another rousing performance.

Thank you TAS Typhoons for giving your fan base such a spectacle to watch. TAS 4 – South Armidale 3.

Mr Sean O’Neil

Netball

TAS/PLC Topaz vs Sandon Stars

Well, unfortunately the drought hasn’t broken but strangely enough the netball season has been plagued by inclement weather. Saturday’s game was no exception! It started out as a sprinkle and by three quarter time when play was abandoned, it was pouring and we were all saturated! The girls soldiered on and played an amazingly confident game in slippery and unpleasant conditions, showing real stamina against Sandon Stars. Topaz dominated the first quarter with excellent team play leading to a sensational goal, shot from quite a distance by Scarlett Buntine. Sandon Stars responded with some quick goals in the second quarter from their tall goal shooter. Several other goal attempts by Topaz were unsuccessful with blurred vision, cold hands and a slippery ball making things very difficult. All in all, however, Topaz played extremely well and weren’t fazed by the conditions at all. Once again,

TAS TALKS — 15
congratulations to all who played on the day: Ruby Broun, Scarlett Buntine, Gabby Cotterell, Millie Coupland, Mia Lincoln, Lillian Maxwell, Lily Moore and Charlotte Portell.

Thank you to our loyal supporters who once again, braved the conditions to encourage the team. We were delighted to have Mr Lloyd on the sideline, too.

Our final game will be played on Saturday 23 August commencing at 12pm against Ben Venue Lions. Following the game, there will be a presentation for all the teams in the Junior Netball Competition outside the Clubhouse.

Mrs Anne Trenerry

TAS Turquoise

On Saturday the girls play against Ben Venue Wizards. Yet another game played in wet conditions! The girls are now very accustomed to playing in wet weather. I congratulate all of the girls and their parents for their resilience in these conditions.

Isabel Newton played a great defensive game winning a lot of the ball in the centre court. It was wonderful watch, well done. Emily Buntine also had a strong game. Emily moved quickly around the court providing options for the team over and over again. Great work, Emily.

Poppy Broun and Chloe Lincoln worked well together in the attack position, both passing the ball with confidence to provide opportunities to have a shot at goal.

Next week is our last game for the season. The game is at 2.40pm on court 8 against VIP CGA Rock Stars.

Mrs Alyssa Lincoln

COMMUNITY NOTICES

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