Da Vinci Decathlon

Over three days last week TAS hosted 600 of the sharpest student minds from across the north of the State for the 2014 Northern NSW Da Vinci Decathlon. This academic equivalent of the famous Olympic event saw teams of 8 from Years 5 to 10, including 5 TAS teams, compete under this year’s theme of ‘Mystery and Mayhem’. Like Da Vinci’s career, the competition spanned a diverse range of disciplines, from Maths and Chess, to English, Science, Code Breaking, Engineering, Philosophy, Drama Production, Art and Poetry, Cartography and general knowledge. To mix with like-minded students in such an intellectually stimulating environment was a privilege for our forty students and I know that it was enjoyed.

The Da Vinci Decathlon is the product of Knox Grammar and I offer thanks to them for licensing the Northern NSW event to TAS. It is a tribute to Knox that they approach this concept with such an inclusive and generous mindset. Once again this year we had a group of Knox Old Boys with us to run many of the events and their contributions were very much appreciated.

Many were involved in making this big academic event a success and I pay particular tribute to Catherine Boydell who is responsible for bringing the Decathlon to TAS and leading it over the past two years. It is now a feature event on the TAS co-curricular calendar and I look forward to it continuing.

Finals Football

Assembly this week offered the opportunity to celebrate the great success that the TAS 1st XI Football team has enjoyed this season and to wish them good fortune as they head into the grand final of the Armidale 1st Division competition this weekend. After 17 consecutive victories, our senior football team is undefeated in 2014 leading into the grand final and, if that has happened before, it was a long time ago. With a ‘for and against’ score of 88 to 13, with 38 of those coming from the boot of the leading goal scorer Rory Spiers, the team has been dominant in a fashion that has not been seen before. Whatever happens on Saturday, it has been a very special season and the efforts of the team are worthy of our congratulations.

I encourage all who can possibly make it to be on the sideline of Rologas 1 at 3:00pm this Saturday to help cheer on our team as they take on the Uralla side.

Year 11 Exams

I offer best wishes to our Year 11 students who are occupied with their end of course exams this week. The completion of the Preliminary HSC this term is an important juncture in the school careers of these students as it not only completes the preparatory course for the HSC, but also marks the beginning of their senior year. I wish them well as they make every effort to present their best work this week.
## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Term 3 - Week 9

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

**Thursday 11 September**
- Year 11 End of Course Exams
- 12.30pm New England Sings Primary Choir Rehearsal (Years 3 - 5)
- 1.30pm POP Practice
- 3.40pm POP Rehearsal - Year 12
- 7.00pm “Fantastic Mr Fox” Dress Rehearsal

**Friday 12 September**
- Year 11 End of Course Exams
- HSC D&T Practical Markers at TAS
- 9.00am Japanese HSC Oral Exam
- 10.00am “Fantastic Mr Fox” Junior School Matinee Performance
- 1.30pm POP Practice
- 3.40pm POP Rehearsal - Year 12
- 7.00pm “Fantastic Mr Fox” Opening Night

**Saturday 13 September**
- Myall Classic Marathon Paddle
- 6.15pm Cadet Dining-in-Night at the Ex-Services Club
- 7.00pm “Fantastic Mr Fox” Closing Night

**Sunday 14 September**
- 11.00am Passing Out Parade
- 6.30pm Rugby Presentation
- Dinner, Armidale City Bowling Club

### Term 3 - Week 10

**Monday 15 September**
- Year 11 Primary Industries Work Placement
- 5.30pm Hockey Presentation Barbecue in McConville Centre
- 6.30pm Football Presentation Dinner in Hoskins Centre

**Tuesday 16 September**
- Board Meeting
- Year 11 Primary Industries Work Placement

**Wednesday 17 September**
- Year 11 Primary Industries Work Placement
- 10.15am Year 12 depart for coast
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer

**Thursday 18 September**
- Year 11 Primary Industries Work Placement
- 10.15am Year 12 and staff farewell morning tea
- 12.30 Year 12 and Parents light lunch on Chapel Lawn - School Lines Drive
- 2.00pm Year 12 School final Assembly
- Year 12 Parent and Son House Dinners Classes Conclude

**Friday 19 September**
- Staff Day
- Valedictory Day
- 10.15 Morning Tea on Chapel Lawn
- 11.15 Valedictory Service in Memorial Hall
- 12.30 Valedictory Lunch and prize giving
- Fiji Service Trip departs
- Japanese Trip departs
- Year 12 Formal

### Holiday Activities

- **19 - 29 September**: Fiji Service Trip
- **21 - 30 September**: Thailand Service Trip
- **19 September - 13 October**: Japan Cultural Trip
- **27 September - 14 October**: International Conference, Kings Academy, Jordan
- **6 October**: Boarders Return
- **7 October**: Classes Resume

### UNIFORM AND BOOK SHOP

The Uniform and Book Shop will be open 9.00am to 5.00pm Wednesday 1 October. Please use this day to purchase Summer Uniform if necessary.

**Hours during the first week of Term 4**
- **Monday 6 October**: 9.00 am to 5.00 pm
- **Tuesday 7 October**: 10.00 am to 5.00 pm

Normal hours resume on Wednesday 8 October.
It doesn’t seem very long since the 2013 Year 12 students departed. Now, another cohort of students is soon to leave. These are big moments in a young person’s life. Transition from school to post-school life can seem daunting after a long period of school life that has provided structure and support for a person’s development. Often students can feel quite overwhelmed at the level of responsibility for their own lives that they must now shoulder. The world beyond can seem challenging. It is also a time of some excitement as people engage with the next steps in their lives. The ceilings on possible futures can be removed as they embrace a whole range of possibilities. Between now and then of course, stands the HSC examination with its own challenges and possibilities.

What do young people need from significant others in their lives during this transition? Encouragement to give things their best shot, to focus on the things at hand and not get too far ahead of themselves, to not foreclose too quickly on choices of a career path unless it is one that has been a long-term passion, to look around and see how the adult world ticks, to experience new and different things. With legal adult status having been reached it is important to continue to provide a sounding board, a base from which they can take their bearings, a place to return to rebuild resilience when things seem to have turned sour. It is important also to let young people know that life has the whole mix – joy, sadness, success, failure, the predictable and the unpredictable. We are all in this together and the more we can back up our young people the more we can be confident about the future as they take flight. Finally, it is important to believe in them, really believe in them, and to let them know that you are there to back them up.

Too far Jesus #5 “You Fool!”
Matthew 5:21-22

I have been called a number of things in my life, and I must admit that I have called other people some uncharitable things at times, but I have never said to anyone ‘Raca!’ Which is a good thing, otherwise I might be answerable to the Sanhedrin, which a bit like the High Court of Israel. However, that does not mean I am out of trouble. Jesus goes on to say that while ‘Raca’ might land me in front of the courts, to call someone a fool will land me in the fires of hell. Now don’t get me wrong I don’t think it’s nice to call anyone a fool, but let’s face it, there are far worse things they could be called, for example, you could say… well you can fill in the blanks… In the end Jesus, I think you are going just a little too far with this one, to say ‘you fool!’ just doesn’t seem that bad.

But Jesus goes even further, he says, your anger doesn’t even need to be voiced, let alone acted upon resulting in bodily harm – even murder. You can just be angry, it can just be in your head, it can just be a feeling. Jesus is saying we can be tried and judged just for feeling something. Jesus, now you have gone way too far!
Da Vinci Decathlon

Nearly 600 students competed last week in the Northern NSW da Vinci Decathlon. Schools brought their brightest students to TAS travelling from as far away as Scone, Dubbo, Narrabri, Moree, Inverell, Coffs Harbour, Tamworth and Tenterfield. Competition began with Year 7 and 8 on Wednesday, Years 9 and 10 on Thursday and finished with Years 5 and 6 on Friday. Again, this year we had Knox Grammarians, Dylan Sherman, Dylan Hopcroft and Max Wright helping run the day, adding special fun activities such as trivia quizzes about the travels of Mona Lisa. There is no doubt the challenges are hard, but it was so encouraging to see teams working together to problem solve, rethinking ideas and designs, answers and drawings. Leonardo must have certainly done the same. Thank you to all the TAS staff who assisted over the three days. We are extremely lucky Knox has allowed us to be a satellite venue for da Vinci Decathlon competitions. The exposure to the types of challenges, the opportunity to mix with students who are like minded and for staff involved in enrichment, to make contacts and swap ideas, is truly worthwhile. We look forward to 2015 and welcoming even more students.

As a final thought, Philosophy is probably the hardest area for many schools. How would you go answering the following question? If you could fill a box with happiness, what would you include?

The winning teams were: Year 5 - Carinya Christian School, Year 6 - Armidale City Public School, Year 7 - Armidale High School, Yr 8 - Bishop Druitt College, Year 9 - PLC Armidale, Year 10 - Bishop Druitt College.
All Stars Debate

The inaugural All Stars debate was a great success as the entire Senior School, as well as some special guests from the TAS Junior School, gathered to listen to some inspiring speeches from the young men in the schools firsts Debating team who competed against their high profile visitors.

TAS welcomed Ms Jen McMahon (Editor Country Living Magazine) to the stage first to open the debate, ‘That Armidale is the thriving hub of the New England North West.’ Jen gave some wonderful commentary on the educational, cultural and tourism strengths of the town. Jen was followed up with some impressive words from Year 12 student Sam Doyle who spoke about the strengths of other towns across our region, as well as the pitfalls that Armidale may have for tourist and locals alike.

The second speaker of the Affirmative, Mr Adam Marshall continued his team’s case, offering a number of humorous anecdotes. Although, in true politician style he continued to reinforce the catch cry ‘All Roads Lead to Armidale’. The second speaker for the Negative, John Dennis (TAS) opened his argument with the statement ‘All roads, that is, except for the Armidale bypass that happily encourages travellers to continue to drive around the town.” John went on to discuss further strengths of other towns in our region, as well as the fact that Armidale is not the growth town that centres such as Tamworth have proven to be.

The third speaker for the Affirmative, Mr Andrew O’Connell (Creative Arts Coordinator at TAS) stole the show with a rebuttal delivered in the style of ‘slam poetry’ which was both entertaining and offered a number of worthy arguments. The final speaker of the debate was TAS Captain Patrick Williamson whose arguments to the contrary closed out the debate in TAS’ favour as decided by Deputy Headmaster Mr Alan Jones in his adjudication.

The debate proved to be a wonderful spectacle with outstanding speeches, team lines, fantastic humour and even some poetry added in for good measure. The guests were brilliant examples of success stories in our community for our students to aspire to and only added to the entertainment provided on the day.

Football and Hockey Grand Finals

Congratulations to our U12’s football team and Second XI hockey teams who both compete in Grand Final this weekend. These teams have done a wonderful job through the season and should be very proud of this great honour. A special mention to our 1st XI Football who compete at 3pm this Saturday at Rologas Fields against Uralla. This game is on the back of 17 straight victories for the First XI in the ADFA competition. We are hoping to see as many of our boys and families that are available there to support this exceptional squad this Saturday.

Tennis

The NCIS tennis championships in Grafton on Wednesday was a successful event for all age groups. The day started with a drive through snow falls at Ebor to very gusty westerly winds, then the temperature rising through the day to over 20 degrees. The boys warmed up and were trained with tactics to compete in the windy conditions, before play commenced at 9.00am.

The boys were entered in seeded pools of six-eight players in a round robin draw with the top eight results proceeding to quarter finals, semi finals and then finals.
The under 17 squad consisted of Will Waterson (quarter-finalist, losing to the eventual winner), Joshua Stevenson (lost his quarter-final to a finalist), Charlie Wyatt (fourth in the pool) and Nick Barnier (defeated in his semi-final).

The 14s team consisted of Duncan Chalmers (fourth in pool), Sam Wright (semi-finalist), Hamish Cannington (quarter-finalist), Matthew Turnbull (third in pool).

The primary boys consisted of Cotter Litchfield (semi-finalist), Calin Simmonds (fifth in pool), Will Young (quarter-finalist) and congratulations to the winner of the Primary Boys section, Ben Simmonds.

Ben really lifted and played with aggressive topspin to get an early break and then used his slice serve to get an early lead. With the whole TAS squad supporting him, he stayed ahead and won the final 6-3.

The TAS Tennis Team would like to thank Ms Angela Ordish and Ms Anthea Chalmers for being the chaperones and making up the lunches for the boys. Also to Mr Jason Simmonds for his assistance in driving the team to Grafton and for organising the three Junior School pool matches.

We also wish all the best to our First XI as they prepare for their grand final this weekend against Uralla. This will be at 3pm at Rologas 1.

I hope there will be much support at both games as we wish the boys well.

This weekend will also see the end of all small sided football competitions (6s - 10s). I take this opportunity to congratulate all the boys and girls who have played with great enthusiasm and sportsmanship throughout the season. To the coaches who have guided these teams, we thank you for your support of the football program at TAS. Training ceased on Monday for all these teams and there will no be training for any team in the final week of term next week.

I hope everyone enjoys the final weekend of Football for 2014 and I look forward to seeing you on the sidelines for the grand finals in which TAS are competing this weekend.

Mr Luke Polson
MIC Football

**U12s**

The team saved one of their best performances for the semi-final. After indifferent form over the last six weeks, the boys worked together and claimed a dominant 4-0 victory over Norths. The last two times we played resulted in a draw and a loss, so it was pleasing to watch the team play to their potential. Every player worked hard in their position and I was proud of the way they encouraged each other throughout the game.

Even when we had three players injured on the sideline, the team still played strongly to the final whistle. I was proud of their effort and look forward to the training sessions this week to fine-tune our preparation for our Grand Final this Saturday. Thank you to everyone who came to support the team as all the boys appreciated it. To anyone who didn’t come to watch I encourage you to come on Saturday to watch a high quality game against a very good opponent.

Mr Alan Moore
Hockey

**U13s - TAS 1**

TAS 1 put a spirited effort in playing the City Scorpions on Friday night. The Scorpions are currently top of the table. TAS 1 fought hard and whilst they lost 7-4 it was not reflective of how competitive they were throughout the match. Sebastian Etheridge was back to his storming best and was ably assisted by Frank Perrottet and Hugh McDouall up front and in defence Josiah Alcorn had his best match of the season. Overall TAS 1 has made significant improvement since the beginning of the season and it has been a pleasure coaching them.

Mr Nicoll

**Football**

Last weekend was another big weekend for TAS Football, with TAS having three teams in semi-finals. The 16As, coached by Mr Nexo, had a narrow loss 3-2 against Norths. Our 14As, coached by Mr Knowles, lost their semi-final 1-0 in a very tight game against Souths. I’m sure you would join me in congratulating both of these sides on a tremendous achievement to make it this far in the competition on the back of what has been a very successful season for both sides.

Our 12As, coached by Mr Allan Moore, won their semi-final 4-0 on Saturday and will now progress through to the 12As grand final this coming Saturday, 13 September. This will be played at 9am on Rologas 12 against Guyra Titans.

I hope there will be much support at both games as we wish the boys well.

This weekend will also see the end of all small sided football competitions (6s - 10s). I take this opportunity to congratulate all the boys and girls who have played with great enthusiasm and sportsmanship throughout the season. To the coaches who have guided these teams, we thank you for your support of the football program at TAS. Training ceased on Monday for all these teams and there will no be training for any team in the final week of term next week.

I hope everyone enjoys the final weekend of Football for 2014 and I look forward to seeing you on the sidelines for the grand finals in which TAS are competing this weekend.

Mr Luke Polson
MIC Football

**TAS Tennis Team**
**TAS Hockey Club Barbecue, Presentation and AGM**

Please be reminded that this coming Monday 15 September is the TAS Hockey Club BBQ to be held from 5.15pm at the McConville Centre BBQ area. Please forward completed RSVPs to Mr Portell as a matter of urgency to ensure catering requirements are met. It would be great to see as many club players and families in attendance as possible to reflect on and congratulate players for the fine results of the 2014 Winter season. The TAS Hockey Club AGM will follow the BBQ in the McConville Centre at 7pm for any interested club members.

**C Grade**

The TAS C grade hockey side came up against a very determined Ex-Services hockey side on Sunday. The age and the experience of the Ex-Services side forced the TAS side to really think about their game. There were moments when TAS came undone trying to convert from a free hit and didn’t use their short passing game. The backing up by the TAS defence and the boys fitness allowed the TAS forwards to show their skill with Will Brissett and Jonathon Chamberlain converting five goals. On the day TAS came home the victors winning 5-4 in what was a very tough match. Well done to the team. Good luck next week in the Grand Final!

Mr Michael Cursons

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**U13s - TAS 2**

With a close race for second position between the City Hornets and our TAS 2 side, the pressure was on on Friday evening, with our team needing some lady luck to progress through to the Grand Final to be held on the 12 September against the City Scorpions.

With a full team for the first time in weeks, the bench was full, and although it is always good to have fresh reserves, it was hard to ensure that all players got their deserved time on the field. Down three nil midway through the second half, TAS finally scored through a cracking strike by Sam Behrend that sailed into the net after a defensive deflection. All of the team played well, and some determined passing saw the TAS side gain the upper hand in the final quarter of the game. Despite the loss, TAS 2 should progress through to the Grand Final having just pipped the Hornets by a point on the ladder.

Mr Portell

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**Equestrian**

We have a number of events coming up over the next few months for our riders. They are listed below. If you are interested in any of these events please contact me for more information. As of the end of this term I shall be on Maternity Leave, so from next term please send all enquiries to jlincoln@as.edu.au until further notice. Good luck to all those riders who continue to prepare for upcoming events.

**October**

- 10 October  Glen Innes School Horse Sports
- 11 October  Glen Innes Interclub
- 12 October  Guyra Interclub
- 17 October  Calrossy Interschool Horse Sports Day
- 18-21 October  Tamworth Interschool Horse Extravaganza
- 18-19 October  Uralla & Kingstown
- 18-19 October  Tenterfield & Emmaville
- 24 October  Bundarra Central School Horse Sports
- 25 October  Bundarra
- 26 October  Zone Campdraft Bundarra and Blue Jeans

**November**

- 1 November  Armidale Interclub
- 2 November  Armidale (TBA)
- 8-9 November  Inverell Junior Rodeo
- 15 November  Walcha
- 16 November  Walcha Blue jeans
- 22-23 November  Inverell Interclub
- 29 November  NEGS (TBA)
- 30 November  Zone Dressage NEGS

Mrs Alexandra Murray
Boys set for tennis challenge

Good luck to Nicholas Barnier, Duncan Chalmers (both u13s) and Calin Simmonds (u9s), who have been selected for this weekend's Tennis NSW North West Champion of Champions tournament in Inverell. The boys will play North Coast, with the best six from each age year group, heading to the State Titles in October.

Following the tenth and final round of Tennis NSW North West region's Junior Development Series in Moree last month, Nicholas was named as the number one 13 year old on the JDS North West circuit, and Duncan was ranked number seventh. Calin is ranked sixth in the under 9s, a good result given he only received points for four of the five tournaments he played. Ranking is based on each player's best six tournaments.

Left to Right: Nicholas Barnier and Duncan Chalmers, and Calin Simmons (pictured below), who have been selected for the Tennis Australia JDS Champion of Champion tournament in Inverell this weekend.
Instrumental and Vocal Tuition for Term 4

Students - although Term 3 is almost over, you can still enrol for vocal and/or instrumental tuition for the rest of the year if you would like to have lessons. Please pop down to the Music Block to have a chat with us if you would like to know more about lessons. Parents - please visit the TAS website for Tuition Enrolment Forms or email the Music Administrator, Mrs Broadbent on sbroadbe@as.edu.au

Lesson Cancellations by End of This Term

A timely reminder that if students wish to cease lessons this term the tutor must be notified by the end of this term to avoid another term’s fees. Students - If you wish to try for another lesson time slot please have a chat to your tutor by the end of this term. At the end of each term there is often some shuffling around of lessons and a more suitable spot might come up next term if you ask.

TAS Ensembles - Rehearsal Times in Term 4

Many thanks to students in our TAS ensembles for your contributions this term. Thank you for your hard work and commitment to music at TAS.

Please note the rehearsal times for all ensembles below as there are a few minor changes to start times. Rehearsals for all bands will commence in Week 1 Term 4.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ensemble</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Conductor</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TAS Jnr Vocal Ensemble</td>
<td>8:00 – 8:40am</td>
<td>Ms Roobol</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</td>
<td>5:00 – 6:00pm</td>
<td>Mr Dunham</td>
<td>Music Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAS Singers</td>
<td>7:30 – 8:30am</td>
<td>Ms Roobol</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 Beginner Band</td>
<td>1:20 – 2:00pm</td>
<td>Butcher/Finco</td>
<td>Music Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAS Wind Ensemble</td>
<td>7:30 – 8:30am</td>
<td>Mr Tracy</td>
<td>Music Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAS Chapel Choir</td>
<td>3:45 – 5:00pm</td>
<td>Mr Oxley</td>
<td>TAS Chapel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAS Jnr Guitar Ensemble</td>
<td>1:20 – 2:00pm</td>
<td>Mr Nolan</td>
<td>Music Centre</td>
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WHAT’S HOT AT HOSKINS

Things are getting a little fantastic in Hoskins!

As performance dates for Fantastic Mr Fox loom for the cast and crew of the Middle School play there is no time to be wasted. Scenes are being run again and again, costumes assembled, sets painted, props constructed and technical effects managed. There is a tech run this Friday afternoon and a full run through of the show this Saturday in preparation for the performances in Week 9. Performance dates and times are as follows:

Thursday 11 September at 7pm - an open Final Dress Rehearsal of the show

Friday 12 September at 10am - Junior School matinee

Friday 12 September at 7pm - Opening Night

Saturday 13 September at 7pm - Closing Night

Tickets for the show are available from the Hoskins website and everyone is advised to organised them in advance to avoid the disappointment of missing our wonderfully talented Middle School actors on stage.

Bookings: Follow this link Trybooking Fantastic Mr Fox
Winding down

As a general rule the final weeks of term are always a little difficult: boys and staff are tired, assessments fall due, Winter sport grinds to an inexorable halt (not a bad thing really, as boys have ‘been on the go’ for two very busy terms now) and the holiday break is in sight, but we’ve still two weeks to manage before it arrives.

Since I’ve touched on the issue of sport…I was lucky to be in Sydney to watch the final ‘away games’ of Rugby against Riverview, 10 days ago. But for the steady drone of passenger jets arriving at and leaving Mascot, had you closed your eyes, you’d have believed that you were in Armidale. Constant rain combined with a persistent breeze (some would say a near gale) to make for a bitterly cold day. But, the boys, sopping wet, performed brilliantly. So many Middle School parents were there, too, and as you know the boys appreciate your commitment to them and their activity. After such a full and successful winter season in all sports, students even looked tired last week.

Also on the sporting front were the efforts of boys who played in the NCIS tennis championships in Grafton last week. I know all played very well; a full report from Mr Justin Sherriff can be found elsewhere in TAS Talks.

On the whole, boys are still managing their commitments remarkably well. Despite the fact that their ‘pace’ is slowed (though only marginally), they’re still smiling, largely meeting commitments throughout the campus and are generally getting on well with one another - and with us, I’m pleased to add.

For example, the Year 8 Fiji Service Trip boys are daily running their fundraising stalls, and still squeezing in their characteristic kicking of footballs with the Year 7s at lunch times. This latter activity, by the way, is a really healthy one and it’s good to see the year groups interacting in such a healthy manner.

Da Vinci Decathlon

Well, after three very busy days, it has finished. As I mentioned last week, TAS hosted more than 600 students and I believe it has been the most successful venture I’ve witnessed since being at the School. TAS presented several teams in each year group and the boys acquitted themselves so well. I went three times to see our boys in action in interdisciplinary scenarios and, without exception, they thoroughly enjoyed the challenges that came their way. In short, despite potential logistical nightmares (these did not eventuate) every aspect of the Decathlon ‘went like clockwork’.

The boys are incredibly lucky. These events don’t appear magically out of the ether: they take months of preparation and their success is almost exclusively attributable to the staff who, in addition to normal duties, work hard to ensure such a level of success. Under Ms Catherine Boydell’s highly capable stewardship, those other staff who prepared the boys, calculated scores, organized lunches, supervised ‘out times’, printed certificates and generally ran themselves constantly are our own Junior and Middle School staff. So, you are incredibly lucky, as well. Middle School staff include Mrs Alison Evans, Mrs Regina Pollard, Mrs Kirsty Brunsdon, Mr Luke Polson and Ms Phoebe Wood (the latter three as supervisors): all are ‘champions’ in my view and on your behalf I thank them for making this year’s da Vinci Decathlon a major success on the 2014 calendar.
Enrolment Interviews and ‘values’

Thus far, the interview process for our potential 2015 intake are very good indeed. Despite savage weather forecasts and generally challenging times for so many, TAS continues to be a priority for families. In no small measure I believe this is so because of the efforts of our Enrolment staff, Mrs Pip Warrick and Mrs Anna Gayner, who so conscientiously and successfully advertise the School. Again, in no small measure, it is because of the ‘buddies’ assigned to boys who come to TAS for experience days. These ‘buddies’ are your sons and also the teachers who so ably look after ‘experience day visitors’. Middle School boys are normal boys and their capacity to ‘get up to mischief’ is a proven one. However, when new students arrive, current ones become models of probity and concern. Almost without exception, at the enrolment interviews we’ve had for well over a term now, mention is made of the generosity of spirit of our current students to those boys who present for experience days. Clearly little things like shaking hands and introducing themselves to others combine with looking people in the eye and asking how ‘things are going’ are not such ‘little things’ after all! Further, the synergy between the boarding school (grateful thanks must go to Mr Andrew Junge and his staff, here) and the academic day area is vital to such success and it is only right that it is mentioned here.

Stop Press:

I’m looking forward to seeing the Under 12 Football players who have reached the Grand Final stage. I am delighted!

I hope the week is a good one for you,

Mr Mark Harrison
Head of Middle School

ACTING HEADS OF JUNIOR SCHOOL, CHRISTINE WRIGHT AND VERONICA WATERS

Looking Ahead

<table>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 10 September</td>
<td>Year 4 Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 11 September</td>
<td>New England Sings rehearsal 1-2:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 12 September</td>
<td>Matinee performance of the Middle School Play ‘Fantastic Mr Fox’</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 15 September</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16 September</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17 September</td>
<td>General Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 18 September</td>
<td>Years 4 &amp; 5 to wear formal uniform for Lining of the Drive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 19 September</td>
<td>Valedictory Day</td>
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<td>Staff Day</td>
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Term 4

<table>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7 October</td>
<td>Classes resume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8 October</td>
<td>No Assembly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wearing our Uniform proudly

With Spring in the air it is a great time to have a ‘spring clean’ with our uniforms. We are encouraging the children to take a little more pride in their uniforms, ensuring they arrive at school neatly dressed, hair brushed and shoes polished. Girls should be wearing a navy blue ribbon if their hair is tied up. Please also ensure hats are clean and tidy and worn to school each day. We thank you in anticipation of your help with this matter.
Happy Birthday

We wish a very happy birthday to the following children who celebrate their birthdays this week:

Alec Campbell and Christopher Post.

Class absence register - sign out/in sheets

Junior School has a system for recording the movements of students to and from class during the day. This is so a record can be maintained in accordance with the expectations of the Board of Studies. This operates when students need to travel off campus after arriving at school. The form outlines the information required and the register is kept on the reception desk in Junior School.

Year 4 and 5 in formals on Thursday 18 September

Thursday 18 September is the Year 12 Valedictory Day. This is a very important day for all Year 12 students as it marks their final day as the leaders in our School. It is equally special for the Year 11 students as it marks the beginning of their new roles in leading the School. Part of the tradition of this day includes students lining the drive at the front of School as a sign of respect to the Year 12 students and the contributions they have made to the School for up to the past 14 years. Years 4 and 5 will join with all students from Years 6 to 11 to line the driveway for the Valedictory procession. Please ensure your child is wearing formal uniform for this day.

Holiday Reading

If any children would like to borrow extra books from the Library during the holidays, please fill out the permission note (which is attached to this newsletter) and forward it to the Junior School Office.

Framed

Congratulations to both Blake Whitehill and Jack van Roy who entered artworks into the recent ‘Framed’ art competition at NEGS. Blake, took out 2nd place in the Primary Seasons Section, while Jack was finalist.

Well done boys.

JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT

Please note that all Summer Sports Nominations were due last Friday. If you are in Years 3-5 and have not returned your form please do so this week. I will be putting team lists together this week ready for team nominations shortly.

TAS Hockey Club End of Season Barbecue, Presentation and AGM

Please be reminded that this coming Monday 15 September is the TAS Hockey Club BBQ to be held from 5.15pm at the McConville Centre BBQ area. Please forward completed RSVPs to Mr Portell as a matter of urgency to ensure catering requirements are met. It would be great to see as many club players and families in attendance as possible to reflect on and congratulate players for the fine results of the 2014 Winter season. The TAS Hockey Club AGM will follow the BBQ in the McConville Centre at 7pm for any interested club members.

Hockey

U11's

Wow what a game the Under 11’s had last Friday afternoon. The score was only 2-0. Unfortunately we did not win the game, however, it felt like a win to us. I was so impressed with the way every team member played and I was so proud to be your coach. I have had so many people tell me that they thought the team played their best game of the season. Congratulations to all team members on a great game of hockey. I would also like to mention the sportsmanship of this team. Each week they have undoubtedly shown terrific sportsmanship towards their fellow teammates as well as the opposition. They always encourage each other throughout the game and at training and congratulate every oppositional player after the game. This demonstrates the wonderful attributes of these students to our wider community. It also demonstrates the values and ideals we hold in high esteem here at The Armidale School.

Ms Tabitha Dowse

Netball

TAS Turquoise

23 August was the last game for the season for the terrific TAS Turquoise netball girls.

They played against the VIP Rock Stars. Although the girls didn’t have a win on the day they played a wonderful game.
It was a pleasure to watch the girls move the ball up the court as they played with strong passing. Their ability to cause a number of turnovers by beating the opposition player to the ball was also a highlight especially the defensive play of Chloe Lincoln, Sophie Mason and Grace Pennington.

The improvement of all the girls from the beginning of the season has been outstanding. Half the girls have never played netball before the season began. They have handled themselves exceptionally well against teams that have been playing netball for a number of years.

Some of the highlights include the vastly improved passing as well as their confidence in each other’s ability to support and move into space. The girls have learnt to believe in themselves, which will put them in good stead for next season.

I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to coach the team this season and wish all the girls the best of luck for their summer sports.

Mrs Lincoln

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**Permission to borrow Library books during the holidays**

I give permission for my child …………………….. to borrow six books from the TAS Library during the holiday period, and will return these books in good condition in the first week of Term 4, 2014. Should the books not be returned, or are returned damaged, I agree to the purchase cost of the replacement books being charged to my child’s school account.

Signed ……………………………………… Date ………………………...

Click here to download form.

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**Football**

**U7’s**

This week there was a dramatic improvement in the boys’ teamwork and offensive skills. Unfortunately the boys were defeated 3-1. Ted Chick should be commend on his magnificent defence, stopping at least three goals. William Tout and Lance Latham played a great attacking game and worked well with the other boys to advance towards the goal. The boys are having a brilliant end to the season and are clearly working together as a team now.

Ms Jayne Heagney
FANTASTIC MR FOX

BY ROALD DAHL
ADAPTED BY SALLY REID

Amateur Production
www.roalddahl.com

Friday 12th September 7:30
Saturday 13th September 7:30

www.trybooking.com/FMCJ
(02) 6776 5878
Adult $15
Child/Concession $10
22 Sep - 3 Oct
VACATION CARE
yarm@une.edu.au
02 6773 3173

ROCK CLIMBING • CRAFT
GAMES • POOL INFLATABLE
COOKING • EXCURSIONS
**TAS TALKS — 17**

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**NSW Bike Week**

**14th-20th September**

**COMMUTE CHALLENGE**

Ride. Log your trips. Win Prizes!

Register at: SLArmidale.org/bikeweek

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**PEDAL to PINEY**

**Sunday September 28th**

**And Picnic!**

Depart: 10:30am Armidale Visitor Centre

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**Equestrian NSW**

**HORSE DRIVING TRIALS**

**AELC Tamworth**: 9-14 OCT 2014

**FEI C1** and **EA Combined Driving Event** open to all drivers!

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**Armidale Little Athletics**

**Harris Park, Anglers Street, Armidale**

**KIDS**

Have Fun Outdoors — Run, Jump and Throw

Join us at Harris Park, Thursday afternoons
Term 4 2014 and Term 1 2015.

Little Athletics is for all kids aged from 5 – 16
It’s a great way to develop skills and fitness,
Improve co-ordination and meet new friends.

Setup from 4.30pm. Program starts at 5pm
First Club Night – 9th October

**REGISTRATION**

Thursdays 11 & 18 September – Club House Harris Park – 4 – 6pm

WHAT TO BRING: New athletes need to bring along proof of age,
eg Birth Certificate, Visa, School or passport

COST: $75 plus a uniform if you don’t already have one.

For more info:
Email: juliettelow@ipart.nsw.edu.au
Website: www.armidalelaco.org.au
Phone: 0410 669 956

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**DESIGN & PRINT: Young – 3810 3333**
Fun Tennis Camp

September 2014

Tennis Camp will be on rain, hail or shine

9:00am – 3:00pm for 8+
9:00am - 12:00noon for 5-7 year olds

- Improve your tennis
- Loads of fun games with tennis
- A tournament/point play session is held every day after lunch.
- **Lunches (sandwiches) are provided, fresh each day for those staying all day**

Bring a hat, sunscreen, water bottle something for morning tea and a racquet if you have one. Racquets can be borrowed free of charge.

**Contact 0417 957 982 or email peterlesurf@optusnet.com.au**

<table>
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<th>Dates</th>
<th>Full week – all day</th>
<th>Full week – ½ day</th>
<th>Daily cost – full day</th>
<th>Daily cost – ½ day</th>
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<td><strong>Week 1</strong>: (5 days) Mon 22nd – Fri 26th Sept</td>
<td>$200 Includes lunch</td>
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**Dates**

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<th>Week of 22nd-26th Sept …</th>
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<th>M</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. Childs name.......................... Age................ Whole/Half Days
2. Childs name.......................... Age................ Whole/Half Days
3. Childs name.......................... Age................ Whole/Half Days

Mobile Phone: ............................................. email:.............................................