Winter Sporting Season

Last weekend saw the finish of the winter sporting season for many of our senior sportsmen with the final rounds of rugby and hockey for 2015 for most players.

Rugby finished with the final of four away trips to Sydney as we were hosted by The Scots College at Christison Park in Vaucluse and the Scots main oval. As has been the case right through the season, the day featured plenty of close competition and wonderful support for our teams on the sideline. That TAS parents and other supporters are visible in such numbers when we are away is noticed and admired by our hosts and highlights the engagement from our community that we would be unwise to take for granted. The day also drew attention to the commitment of our staff who spend many hours on buses through the rugby season and a good number of nights away from home as they look after our teams. None of this is demanded of them. Rather, it is seen by them as something fundamentally worthwhile and that makes the effort all the more impressive. I offer my thanks to them of course and know that our players regularly and consciously do likewise.

The TAS hockey season has been the strongest for some time on many fronts. Will Brisset’s selection in the U18 NSW side as goalkeeper and seeing him joined by Harry and Sam Wright and Ben Moffatt in stepping up to Armidale Men’s A Grade have been real highlights and the overall results for our eight school teams have been very solid. The good work of our senior team in the Men’s B Grade competition has been well complemented by the healthy pool of talent now coming through the younger age groups and this is very encouraging too. We have more boys playing hockey than we have had for years and this has contributed to the good spirit and energy in the club. We have both the U16 XI and U13 White teams playing in semi-finals on Friday night and I wish them the best of luck in their games.

Whilst rugby and most hockey is now all but complete for 2015, football remains firmly on centre stage as no less than seven TAS teams are through to semi-finals this weekend, including all our ‘A’ teams and the First XI. Without wanting to tempt fate at this crucial stage, it is clear that it has been an extraordinary season for TAS football and I congratulate all our players and coaches on behalf the School as a whole. I hope that many in the TAS family will be there to support our teams in the semi-finals and, hopefully, the finals to come.
GPS Headmasters at TAS

Last Thursday I had the pleasure of hosting the GPS Headmasters’ meeting at TAS. These meetings, held each term at a different one of our nine schools, is the opportunity for headmasters to focus their attention on the sporting and other competitions that have unified our diverse association of schools for well over a century and the collegiality of the group remains a defining force in the longevity of the GPS. I am grateful to my colleagues for travelling for this meeting and look forward to seeing this arrangement continuing in the years ahead.

‘TAS at Twilight’ Ensemble Night

Whilst it was a pleasure to host the Term 3 GPS Headmasters’ meeting, that meant that I was not able to be at one of the significant music events for 2015, the Ensemble Night. Despite not being there, I am able to comment on the night though as the feedback I have received has been nothing less than overwhelming.

To quote one letter; “To see such a large group of kids from the very youngest to those about to undertake their HSC and all in between, inspired and motivated to perform at the standard they did, both individually and collectively, was extraordinary.”

It is clear that music at TAS is in good shape and that has much to do with its leadership and the wonderful sense of collaboration around a vision that our staff share. I congratulate Leanne Roobol, Sarah Broadbent, Rachael Butcher, Warwick Dunham and our music gappie Will on the night and all that they continue to do in this central part of the TAS performing arts program.

da Vinci Decathlon

I reported last week on the opening of the third Northern NSW da Vinci Decathlon and the intellectual and creative challenge it presented to the many teams of able and ambitious students from Years 5 to 10 that travelled to be a part of it. Over the three days of competition, some 600 students from schools from the Hunter Valley to the Queensland border put their talents to the test in an atmosphere of fun and healthy, competitive camaraderie. Much goes into the planning and operation of a big event such as this and the work of our da Vinci manager, Catherine Boydell, along with her team of Anne Hine, Alison Evans, Reggie Pollard and Harriet Symons was clearly impeccable. This regional event offers wonderful opportunities for very many students and I thank them for making it possible.

I also offer our considerable thanks to Knox who founded the event some years ago and continue to host the Sydney decathlon that TAS attends. It is with the permission and support of Knox that TAS offers the Northern NSW decathlon and I am especially grateful to their Old Grammarians, Dylan and Max, for again leading the three days as M.C’s so capably and bringing so much enjoyment to it.

Girls’ Day In and Lunch

Monday of this week saw the next stage in our journey toward co-education as we hosted over 80 families of girls looking at the possibility of a TAS education in 2016. That number included over 30 girls from Year 5 through to Year 12 and we were, again, buoyed by the very considerable interest in this historic new development for TAS. As opposed to the information gathering focus of the co-education expo a fortnight ago, this was an opportunity for those girls and their parents to meet one another and to speak with senior members of the TAS staff in a more relaxed and social setting.

What each of our events thus far have had in common is the unified and considerable support of the TAS staff. There is a sense of natural excitement around the School that could not be manufactured and I offer thanks to all who continue to drive this process with such enthusiasm and passion.

The next major step for those girls and the others who could not make it this week will come next Wednesday when we host girls for the first of what will no doubt be a number of girls’ experience days. As I said in our assembly today, what almost every current student has in common is that they shared that experience of coming into classes to meet other students and get a feel for what TAS life is like before their enrolment. That process exposed them to the welcoming nature of our school community and I have no doubt that next Wednesday will be the same for our first secondary girls.
Week 8

Wednesday 2 September  
NCIS Tennis at Grafton  
Combined Chapel Service and Dinner at NEGS

Thursday 3 September  
NECOM ‘Walk through the Orchestra’  
5.30pm Japan Study Tour Information Evening

Friday 4 September  
Year 6-8 Social at PLC  
Year 9/10 Social at NEGS

Sunday 6 September  
TAS Service at St Peters

3 – 9 September  
Year 11 End of Course Exams

Week 9

Thursday 10 September  
4.00 pm Junior Hockey Presentation & Afternoon Tea  
4.30pm RS Intern Conference Information Sessions  
6pm TAS Hockey Club Presentation and Senior Dinner - Hoskins Centre Foyer

Friday 11 September  
2.00 pm Passing out Parade Cadet Dining in Night

Sunday 13 September  
Opens Rugby Dinner (Armidale Bowling Club)

Week 9

14 - 18 September  
Year 11 Primary Industries Work Placement

16 - 27 September  
Kokoda Trek

Monday 14 September  
6.30pm Opens Football Dinner Senior School Tri-Schools Debating

Tuesday 15 September  
TAS Board Meeting

Wednesday 16 September  
CIS Athletics

Thursday 17 September  
Year 12 Procession, Final Assembly and House Dinners

Friday 18 September  
Valedictory Day and Year 12 Formal

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**Valedictory 2015**

**Please RSVP**

**Thursday 17 September**

12.30 pm  
Light lunch for Year 12 students and parents, Chapel Lawn

1.35 pm  
Year 12 Process to Memorial Hall through school Guard of Honour front drive

1.40 pm  
Final Year 12 Assembly (staff and students only)

**Evening**  
Day and Boarding House dinner (as advised by Housemasters)

**Friday 18 September**

10.15 am  
Morning Tea with staff, students and parents, Chapel Lawn

11.15 am  
Parents & Year 12 move to the Hall

11.30 am  
Valedictory Service, Memorial Hall

12.30-3.00 pm  
Formal lunch & prize giving

Year 12 students and their parents in the School Dining Hall. Guest speaker is Robbie Oppenheimer, Old Boy 2008. Formalities will conclude with presentation of Old Boys ties.

As the Dining Hall has limited seating we are only able to seat three per family. Extended family are very welcome to attend other Valedictory gatherings. **Any further queries should be directed to the Executive Assistant to the Headmaster, Mrs Anna Barnier on 6776 5811 or abarnier@as.edu.au.**
UNIFORM AND BOOK SHOP

Please note that the Uniform Shop will close early on Wednesday 2 September at 4.30pm. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Due to alterations to the Uniform and Book Shop it will not be open during the holiday period. Please make sure any Summer Uniform purchases are made prior to the end of term if possible. Summer Uniform will be available to purchase from Monday 7 September.

Opening hours at the beginning of Term 4 - Summer Uniform should be worn from the beginning of the term for Middle and Senior School children.

Monday 5 October - 9.00 am to 5.00 pm
Tuesday 6 October - 10.00 am to 2.00 pm
Wednesday 7 October - 1.30 pm to 5.30 pm
Thursday 8 October 10.00 am to 2.00 pm
Friday 9 October 1.30 pm to 5.00 pm

MIDDLE AND SENIOR SCHOOL SOCIALS

PLC Social Year 6, 7 and 8

PLC has kindly invited us to a Year 6, 7 and 8 social to be held on Friday 4 September (7.30pm -9.30pm). All students must be neatly dressed; no thongs, no singlets. Collared shirts please.

All socials cost $5 which will be charged to the student’s school account. This money will go to the PLC SRC and their fund raising projects for 2015. Boys need to be at TAS for a roll call by 7.20pm. Boys can be collected from TAS at 9.40pm. It is expected that all boys must travel to and from the social by bus. Those boys who would like to attend can register their names with their homeroom teacher.

NEGS Social Year 9 and 10

NEGS has kindly invited us to a Year 9 and 10 social to be held on Friday 4 September (7.30pm -9.30pm). All students must be neatly dressed; no thongs, no singlets. Collared shirts please.

All socials cost $5 which will be charged to the student’s school account. This money will go to the NEGS SRC and their fund raising projects for 2015. Boys need to be at TAS for roll call by 7.20pm. Boys can be collected from TAS at 9.40pm. It is expected that all boys must travel to and from the social by bus. Those boys who would like to attend can register their name after Assembly on Tuesday 1 September.
Year 12

Year 12 students have now finished their Trial HSC exams and will now be getting their results back. It is important for them to remember that substantial improvements can still be made if they choose to apply themselves. All students should be listening to feedback on their exam performance and speaking with their teachers about where to focus their attention in the upcoming weeks.

We are currently beginning to organise the HSC Study Camp that will run at TAS between 3 and 5 October. This is deliberately placed at the end of the school holidays with a week to go before the HSC Exams so that students can get a usually much-needed boost. More information will be sent out directly to students and parents of Year 12 students in the coming weeks.

Eligibility of supervisors

The following should be taken into account when considering eligibility for appointment to the position of supervisor.

* Current teachers, clerical staff, including tutors whether employed as a casual, relief or part-time basis, CANNOT be appointed as supervisors

* a supervisor cannot be appointed at a centre if they have a child or near relative sitting the 2015 HSC examinations at the same centre

* supervisors must be over 18 years of age

* it is not appropriate to appoint as a supervisor anyone who recently attended the school

If you are interested in assisting in this area please contact Mrs Vickey O’Brien for further details. Phone - 6776 5806 or email vobrien@as.edu.au

Year 8,9,10 subject choices for 2016

All students should now have entered their subject preferences for 2016 into the online system. Any student who has not done so should email Mrs Wark as soon as possible.

Year 11 exams

Year 11 exams begin in Week 8 beginning on Thursday 3 September and will conclude on Wednesday 9 September.

Students have been sent the exam timetable.

Formal school uniform is to be worn when attending all exams. Student should ensure they arrive at the exam venue at least 20 minutes prior to the start of their exam.

Day students are able to go home and study for their next exam if they wish or study in the school Library. Boarding students are able to return to their Boarding House only if approved and organised by their Housemaster or alternatively they can also study in the library. More information regarding expectations for the week of exams will be sent out via email in the coming week.

HSC Supervisors required

HSC supervisors are employed by the BOSTES to assist in the supervision of students during the the HSC examinations. The employment is on a casual basis. Supervisors can be employed (as per section 2.4.2) for one shift or as many as required as determined by the Presiding Officer. The exams for this year are held between 12 October and 6 November between 9am and 5:30pm.

STEM Careers Seminar & Q&A Forum
(Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics)

This will be held on Thursday 3 September 2015 at 5.30pm in the Arts Lecture Theatre 1 at UNE.

This Careers Seminar and Q&A Forum is designed to inspire and excite UNE and high school students about STEM-based careers. Five guest speakers will present short talks to showcase a range of diverse, creative and flexible careers that have been built on a STEM background.

The event aims to build awareness of the impact that STEM-based work has on society as a whole. Additionally, as people are often intimidated by STEM subjects, we aim to present STEM skills and careers as something that anyone can participate in if they are interested, creative and motivated. Students, parents, teachers, careers advisors, UNE staff and local business members are invited to this event and attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions during the forum and at the light supper served after the forum.
da Vinci Decathlon

Over 75 teams competed last week in the Northern NSW da Vinci Decathlon. Schools from across the region brought their brightest students to TAS travelling from as far away as Scone, Dubbo, Narrabri, Moree, Inverell, Coffs Harbour, Tamworth and Bellingen. Competition began with Year 7 and 8 on Wednesday, Years 9 and 10 on Thursday and finished with Years 5 and 6 on Friday. This is a competition for gifted students and the challenges are hard. Even the teachers marking found them difficult. It was so encouraging to see teams working together to problem solve, rethinking ideas, designs, solutions and drawings. Thank you to all the TAS staff who assisted over the three days. We are extremely lucky Knox Grammar has allowed us to be a venue for the Decathlon for a third year running and the competition and collaboration looks like it will continue and expand. The exposure to the types of challenges, the opportunity to mix with students who are like minded and for staff involved in extension and enrichment to make contacts and swap ideas, the Decathlon is truly a worthwhile event for all involved. We are looking forward to 2016 already.

The winning teams were: Year 5 - The Armidale School, Year 6 - Ben Venue Public School, Year 7 - PLC Armidale, Year 8 - Armidale High School, Year 9 - Bishop Druitt College, Year 10 - Bishop Druitt College.

Congratulations to all teams.
Kai Sampson - Woodridge College

Good morning pupils and staff. This morning I will be telling you about my experience here at TAS and a little bit about my school back in South Africa. This week is my last week at TAS and I am definitely sad to be leaving because the previous seven weeks that I have spent here have been a life changing time for me. I have learnt a lot about different people and schools in Australia but also a lot about myself. It’s quite a heavy task going into a new school by yourself, especially coming from a different country, but there is not one second of it that I regret. I have made many new friends here and that I know I won’t find any replacements for, as some of them are truly unique. I think it is safe to say that I eased into life at TAS fairly easily but that had very little to do with me. I want to thank all the staff for guiding through my time here and especially to Mr Drain, Mr Currell and all the duty staff at Croft for providing me with all I needed in the house. However the biggest thank you has to go out to the pupils. The boys in year 10 have played the biggest part in allowing me to fit into the flow of things here. I have made so many unforgettable friends who I am going to miss loads when I leave. There have been countless stories and memories made here and I am sure each one will stay with me forever.

I’ll end off on a little bit about my school, Woodridge. Woodridge is a very small co-ed school that is located in the South of South Africa. Because of the small numbers there is a very warm family feeling at the school, which is very nice. I have been at Woodridge for a long time and have enjoyed my time there thus far. I would like to encourage all the year 9’s and below to maybe come on exchange to Woodridge because I’m sure it will be a pretty unique experience for you. But if not South Africa go on exchange somewhere because no matter where you go I assure you it will be an amazing experience.

Thank you all for listening and I wish you luck for your studies next year.
On this day
Revelation 21:1-4

On this day, people in our hemisphere wake to Spring. The fruit trees are blossoming, the daffodils are bursting through the brown of winter to provide colour in what has been a barren wasteland for months. The weather is getting warmer; hands now reach for shorts rather than long johns. This is a great time of year, a time of new beginnings and hopefulness.

Yet it hasn’t always been a bright day. In fact the first of September has stained history with one of the darkest days the world has ever known. It was on this day in 1939 that German forces attacked Poland across all frontiers. It’s planes swooped and bombed Polish cities, including the capital, Warsaw. This was the decisive moment that acted as the catalyst for Britain and France to prepare for the declaration of war. World War Two was under way.

As we know, as we are reminded of every week when we read from the Book of Memory in assembly, this war left no community unchanged, lives were lost as the world was left a deep scar.

This day should not be forgotten, and so we declare each week “lest we forget”. But what do we say on Remembrance Day and ANZAC day, what do we hope for? One sentence from the prayer on these occasions reads like this:

“Make us a people zealous for peace, and hasten the day when nation shall not lift up sword against nation neither learn war any more.”

We hope for renewal, we hope for new beginnings, I know it might sounds corny, but the first of September, the beginning of Spring reminds us that new beginnings happen. Ultimately, God promises that He will make all things new, and He will establish a new era when pain and suffering, war and tears will not dominate, in fact they will be a thing of the past. God Himself will wipe away our tears and bring to reality the hope that stirs in us all – a time without darkness.

Sometimes it is important to take our time making important decisions. When a young person finishes their school years there is often a socially constructed expectation that they should have worked out what they intend to pursue as a career. Or at least what the next step should be like. This can leave an individual feeling very confused if they don’t have a linear pathway in mind. The idea that life should unfold in a lock-step fashion is often light years away from the actual lived experience.

It entirely OK for a young person not to know, to take their time by experiencing more of life, to get to know what matters to them over time, to delay making decisions. For example the attrition rate in the first year or two of tertiary education is very high. This is for all kinds of reasons but one of them is premature foreclosure on a pathway that ceases to feel right. I would like to normalise uncertainty and delay if there is lack of clarity and the absence of a passion in relation to a particular way forward. Taking time to experience something else other than school, looking about, growing up some more, can be important at this point.

Likewise it is important to keep some perspective around the outcomes of the HSC. There are always alternatives, pathways that we can take, that will make sense to us over time. It is helpful to maintain a larger canvas as a backdrop to the intensity of preparation for the HSC.
THE ARMIDALE SCHOOL CADET UNIT
Passing Out Parade
Friday 11 September 2015

Passing out parade for all cadets in Year 8 and above will be held on Adamsfield on Friday 11 September (Week 9). The parade and rehearsal are compulsory activities for all cadets.

Uniform is DPCU Ceremonial – Slouch Hat and Black Belt.

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

Parade training schedule is listed below:

**Passing Out Parade Rehearsal Schedule**

**Week 7**
- 25 August (Tuesday) – Lunchtime 1.20 to 1.55pm. **Adamsfield Year 11** (sword drill) & 12 Rehearsal 3.40 – 5.00pm
- 26 August (Wednesday) - Lunchtime 1.20 to 1.55pm. **Adamsfield Year 11** (sword drill) & 12 Rehearsal 3.40 – 5.00pm

**Week 8**
- 31 August (Monday) - Lunchtime 1.20 to 1.55pm. **Adamsfield Year 12** Rehearsal 3.40 – 5.00pm
- 1 September (Tuesday) – Afternoon 3.30 - 5.00pm **Adamsfield** (no sport training)(Dress Rehearsal)
- 2 September (Wednesday) - Lunchtime 1.20 to 1.55pm. **Adamsfield Year 12** Rehearsal 3.40 – 5.00pm

**Week 9**
- 7 September (Monday) - Lunchtime 1.20 to 1.55pm. **Backfield (no Yr 11) Year 12** Rehearsal 3.40 – 5.00pm
- 8 September (Tuesday) - Lunchtime 1.20 to 1.55pm. **Backfield (no Yr 11)**
- 9 September (Wednesday) - 3.30 – 5.00pm. **Adamsfield** (no sport training)
- 10 September (Thursday) - 1.30 – 5.00pm **Adamsfield** (no Pd 6&7 or sport training)

**Passing Out Parade** – 11 September (Friday) – 2.00 – 3.30pm
(cadets required from 11.20am for issues, lunch and dress inspection – form-up at 1.30pm)
**TAS Christmas Puddings 2015**

It’s time to cook up a storm at TAS.

And we all know that one of the important ingredients in any Christmas Pudding (and probably one of the keys to its pantry longevity) is Brandy. To help us keep costs down we are urgently looking for donations of brandy to soak the fruit. The fruit is being collected this week and the longer it soaks up the brandy goodness the better the end result.

Please leave your donations with Veronica Lucas at Reception.

And don’t forget we would love to see you at the mixing and wrapping of the puddings in October. Hold the dates Saturday 17 October for the cooking of the amazing TAS Christmas Pudding and/or Sunday 18 October for wrapping them. This is a fun time and a great way to meet other parents, and I encourage people to come and help. All cooks, sous chefs, general dogs bodies and anybody else who wishes to help is welcome.

We would love to see you there!

**TAS @ DUSK**

A reminder about the inaugural TAS @ Dusk, which will be held on Saturday 7 November.

An extravaganza of music and fun – and here are a couple of sneaky releases. I can share that we have booked Rough Justice to appear as feature of our musical line-up, and also, for a bit of fun of a different kind, we will be having Piggy Races on Dangar Field. Not only that, but one of our favourites, the Emporium, will be returning and taking up residence in the Gym – just in time to kick your Christmas shopping up a gear.

**TAS @ DUSK – prize donations**

While I’m revealing exciting news, I would love to thank two of our first prize donors. We are fortunate to be offered:

- a career coaching session with Careers for Life (www.careersforlife.com.au) by one of our talented parents of a Year 8 boy.
- Two cases of Mudgee wine from Bunnamagoo Wines (www.bunnamagooines.com.au) courtesy of a Year 7 mum.

Your generosity is brilliant, thank you, and I encourage members of our community to support these two businesses in return.

We are still looking for imaginative and interesting prizes to offer. If anyone else in our wider school community has ideas or contacts for some super prizes to be included, please do contact me via email as soon as possible – suecart@uow.edu.au

Tickets will be going on sale in the School holidays and we will advertise your generosity on the flyer for all to see.

***And don’t forget our House Christmas Hampers which will form part of the prize pool. Please bring in your Christmas themed donations during the last week of Term Three and the first week of Term Four – anything with a Christmas theme – food, books, music, decorator items or tree lights/decorations.

Mr Guest will be announcing the best House Spirit early in Term 4.

**FOR SALE**

It’s moving out, but we still have excess stock of PowerAde that we would like to sell. Boxes of 12 bottles are available for just $25! We are open to negotiation, so please phone Rachael Nicoll on 0418 980 662 or email nicollfamily1@gmail.com.

Great for sports teams’ end of season parties!

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**STUDENT SERVICES**

At the end of this notice is an information flyer, regarding roadworks on the New England Highway south of Uralla.

These roadworks will start next week and be on going until to 2 October and are likely to effect the arrival time in the morning of the Kentucky School service. I have been advised that up to 5 minutes in either direction.

This could make the Kentucky School bus up to 15 minutes late to school.

Please read the flyer any direct any questions or concerns to me as it may be possible to transfer students on to another service.

Click [HERE](#) to view flyer.
This week I just want acknowledge the many events that have taken place across the school in just a single week because more than anything, it summarises the extraordinary spirit and the energy that embraces teachers, students and parents alike. In isolation each of these events was massive in terms of organisation, time and commitment from staff, students and parents and everyone involved deserves our collective gratitude.

Take a look at just three of the events that happened here in the past week …..

**Girls’ Day In**

On Monday we welcomed dozens girls and their parents to the school for our inaugural Girls’ Day In which was a fantastic opportunity for everyone to meet each other and our wonderful staff.

There was lots of interest in the significant breadth of the TAS subject offering from Years 9 to 12 and the opportunities available in the impressive co-curricular and activities programs. The Hoskins foyer was abuzz with energy and enthusiasm and we are very grateful to all who made this momentous day possible.

**Academic Leadership on Display - da Vinci Decathlon at TAS**

Last week’s impressive and highly successful third Northern NSW da Vinci Decathlon was organised and hosted at TAS by a dedicated team who deserve thanks from us all for their efforts in bringing such an academic extension opportunity to our region. Over 600 boys and girls from 75 schools came to TAS over three days and were treated to a terrific range of challenging tasks over the course of each day.

This excellent initiative from Knox Grammar School now has a fixed place in the TAS calendar and provides academic outreach to all schools in the region to participate. We are all very grateful to the team at TAS who spend such a significant amount of time organising this three day event so that many around the region may benefit.

**TAS@Twilight**

This was such an incredible night for everyone - whether on stage, behind the scenes, up in the lighting and sound desk or in the audience. It was a magical night of musical talent in a very rare evening where every ensemble and choir at TAS was able to perform. How lucky are we with the talent of our music staff? Ms Leanne Roobol, Mr Warwick Dunham, Mrs Rachel Butcher and Mrs Sarah Broadbent and all the peripatetic staff from NECOM and beyond put together a program that was rich and diverse and allowed all the TAS musical ensembles and choirs to shine. There was standing room only at Hoskins Centre so come early next time – you really don’t want to miss out!

Ms Cressida Mort
Director of Development
TAS TALKS        12

DIRECTOR OF CO-CURRICULAR, WILL CALDWELL

Keep Calm And Play The Game

Whether you are performing in front of a large audience or playing a must win game, the pressure is on!

According to Health Direct Australia, “Stress is a natural human response to pressure when faced with challenging situations. Stress can affect how you feel, how you think, how you behave and how your body works.”

Stress causes hormones in the body to be released, making you more alert and more responsive, allowing you to perform tasks that would otherwise seem impossible.

However, excess stress can impair your coordination, cloud your vision and put you off your game. The key to managing stress is identifying which triggers are within your control. You cannot change a referee’s decision in a game or undo a wrong note in a performance. You can control your actions, remain focused and play the game.

Thrive on the pressure - Enjoy the challenge – It’s a GAME!

TAS@Twilight

It was a privilege to experience the inaugural TAS Ensemble night last Thursday evening. Sharing the joy and love of music that was so obviously felt by all musicians, the audience were drawn into every performance including the TAS “HUGE” Band that boasted some twenty solos and musicians from Kindergarten to Year 12.

To see students flourishing is testament to all the hard working staff in the Music department. In particular I would like to thank Ms Leanne Roobol, Mr Warwick Dunham, Mrs Rachel Butcher and Mrs Sarah Broadbent for their passion, drive and leadership. This is definitely a keeper on the TAS Music Calendar.

Winter Sports Concluding

Last weekend saw the final games for our Rugby and most of our Hockey teams. It was pleasing to see such tightly fought fixtures. Both the First XV and First XI finished their seasons with a draw in front of very appreciative supporters. Win, lose or draw, the response from our players was the same; an appreciation of the opportunity to be part of a team and to compete to the best of their ability. This is testament to both our coaching staff and parents, who give of their time so selflessly. They are very much part of the team and the relationships created are the foundation to students feeling connected at TAS.

To have an away game at Bellevue Hill feel like a home fixture is evidence of the tremendous support from parents and friends. I have had many Year 12 Rugby parents express their sorrow over the void that will exist when they no longer have a son playing rugby at TAS. Please be assured that you will all always be welcome on the sideline. Incidentally, next year’s GPS season commences earlier, on 14 May, to accommodate a move in GPS Athletics to September. The Draw for 2016 is out and will be published on the Rugby Page very soon.
Football

Training - Weeks 8 (this week) and 9 (next week)

Training will continue this week for teams listed below who are competing in semi-finals. Training during Week 9 will only be for those teams who qualify to play in the grand finals on Saturday 12 September. Please note, that U6s-10s play right up to and including Saturday 12 September. There will be training for 6s - 10s both in Week 8 and Week 9.

Semi-Finals for this weekend (as at 1 Sept):

16s Div 1
TAS 16As vs South Armidale Sea Eagles - TAS Adamsfield 8:30am
Training - Thursday afternoon Adamsfield 3.45pm - 5.00pm.

16s Div 2
TAS White vs East Armidale - Doody Park 8:30am
Training - Thursday afternoon Cricket Oval 3.45pm - 5.00pm

14s Div 1
TAS 14As vs Demon Knights Bravehearts - Rologas 1at 10:15am
Training - Wednesday afternoon Adamsfield 3.45pm - 5.00pm

12s Div 1
TAS 12As vs Norths United Spirit - Phil Wheaton Oval at 11:00am
Training - Tuesday/Thursday afternoon Dangarfield 3.45p - 5.00pm

4th Division
TAS Dads vs TAS 3rd XI - TAS Adamsfield at 12:30pm
Training - Thursday afternoon Adamsfield 3.45pm - 5.00pm

1st Division
TAS 1st XI vs Glen Innes Highlanders 1 - Doody Park at 3:00pm
Training Doody Park - Wednesday afternoon

Please come along and support these teams as they seek a spot in the grand finals. Grand Final day is Saturday 12 September.

This Week's Fixtures for 6s - 10s

Please see either the 'Schedules' in TeamApp or the 'Fixtures' section of the TAS Football website (http://wordpress.as.edu.au/football/fixtures/) for this and future week's draws.

Mr Luke Polson
MIC Football
TAS @ Twilight last Thursday.... What a Fantastic Concert!

It was exciting for our team to have such a receptive audience for our inaugural TAS @ Twilight concert last Thursday evening. There was a full house in the Hoskins Theatre and we have had wonderful feedback from the event. We certainly enjoyed showcasing all our fantastic TAS ensembles.

Opening the concert was the new TAS Pipes and Drums ensemble which has only commenced this year. Lead by Andrew Nash on pipes and Dave Van Tongeren on drums, I think everyone was impressed to see this newly developed ensemble play. The future is bright for this group and there will be many opportunities for them to play at School events.

Our HSC student performances were extremely impressive and we wish Robert Butcher, Calliden Hunter, Harry Williams and Harry Wright all the best for the final performance examinations next Tuesday! With our younger students performing in the TAS Junior Vocal Ensemble and also in The FanTAStics, the audience was able to witness the musical talent in the TAS Junior School. The highlight of the concert would certainly have to be the TAS ‘Huge’ Band which encompassed our youngest instrumentalists at TAS (Year 2 - 5) performing alongside TAS Big Band and TAS Senior Jazz Combo. What a sight and sound! Sometimes we forget how many students play or sing in ensembles at TAS and this was a reminder of the commitment, hard work and talent of TAS students across all years. The Grande Finale of TAS @ Twilight event was a mass combined song with even the audience singing ‘The Long White Sails’!

Congratulations to the Co-curricular team at TAS for your ongoing dedication to musical excellence at TAS. Many thanks to the whole Music team and also to the many people that accompanied performances on the night - Ms Bekk Baumgartner, Mrs Robyn Bradley, Mrs Rachel Butcher, Mr Andrew Nash, Mr Nick Negerevich, Mr Matt Nolan, Mr Phil Oxley and Mr David Van Tongeren. A big thank you also to Will Forsyth and Anthony Carlon for their help with the technical side of the event and to our professional stage hands - Henry O’Neil, Toby Markerink and Tristan Rozendaal.

Well done boys! Your contribution to the event was very much appreciated.

AYO ‘Walk Through the Orchestra’ sessions this Thursday

‘Walk Through the Orchestra’ concerts are designed to introduce students to orchestral music and instruments and are an excellent learning opportunity. Students will interact with the musicians and conductor and experience musical elements of tone colour, texture, melody, harmony and rhythm through an exciting and dynamic repertoire.

The concerts are offered Free of Charge by the AYO. The AYO comprises talented students in Years 7-12 and is conducted by Warwick Dunham, who has a vast experience as a professional musician, music educator and conductor.

Two sessions will be held this week at the Old Teachers College in Mossman Street, Armidale.

Concert A: Thursday 3 September from 11:00am – 12.00pm. Years K-5 will be attending this session.

Concert B: Thursday 3 September from 1:30pm – 2:30pm. Students in Year 7 will attend Concert B as part of their music curriculum unit - Instruments of the Orchestra.

All students will travel by Edwards Coaches to and from the concerts.

TAS Cadet Band Rehearsals for Passing Out Parade

Lastly but certainly not least we have included the schedule for TAS Cadet Band rehearsals for Passing Out Parade (POP) next Thursday. Each year the TAS Big Band becomes TAS Cadet Band for OP and students from Years 6 - 12 play in the band alongside the cadets.

In preparation for this event we are holding cadet band rehearsals and these are listed in the document below.

Yours in Music

Ms Roobol, Mrs Butcher, Mr Dunham and Mrs Broadbent
THE ARMIDALE SCHOOL CADET BAND
Passing Out Parade (POP)
Friday 11 September 2015

Each year TAS Big Band becomes the TAS Cadet Band to play at the POP. The Cadet Band will involve students from Years 6 - Year 12. POP will be held on Adamsfield on Friday 11 September (Week 9). Please note: The parade and rehearsals are compulsory activities for all cadets from Year 8.

Uniform is DPCU Ceremonial – Slouch Hat and Black Belt. If you do not have a camo uniform (Year 6/7) there will time allocated during this afternoon’s rehearsal to collect your uniform.

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

Band training schedule is listed below:

POP Cadet Band Rehearsal Schedule

Week 8

- 31 August (Monday) Lunchtime: 1.20 to 1.55pm. Cadet Band meet at Music Centre. Drummers to rehearse on Adamsfield with Cadets. Afternoon: 3.40 to 5pm Cadet Band/Drummers rehearsal in Music Centre

- 1 September (Tuesday) Afternoon: 3.30 to 5.00pm. (Dress Rehearsal) Full rehearsal on Adamsfield. *Bring instruments.* (NO sport training)

- 2 September (Wednesday) Lunchtime: 1.20 to 1.55pm. Full rehearsal on Adamsfield. *Bring instruments.*

Week 9

- 7 September (Monday) Lunchtime: 1.20 to 1.55pm. Full rehearsal on Backfield (no year 11) Afternoon: 3.40 to 5pm Cadet Band/Drummers rehearsal in Music Centre

- 8 September (Tuesday) Lunchtime: 1.20 to 1.55pm. Due to HSC it is Drummers only to this rehearsal Wakefield North. Note venue!

- 9 September (Wednesday) Afternoon: 3.30 to 5.00pm. Full rehearsal on Adamsfield (no sport training)

- 10 September (Thursday) All Afternoon: 1.30 to 5.00pm. Full rehearsal on Adamsfield (no P6 &7 or sport training)

Passing Out Parade Friday 11 September: 2.00 – 3.30pm (Cadets required from 11.20am for issues, lunch and dress inspection – form-up at 1.30pm)
Time runs

We’ve three weeks to go and, after the ‘flu battering, everyone is back and considering the term is now officially ‘long in the tooth’ everything is in reasonably good shape, too. So, we have been lucky then. Despite its pace the term has been a good one all round and as I’ve said before it’s so much better that we’re busy at School.

I made it to very sunny Sydney last weekend and saw pretty near all the Rugby games against Scots College. Winning some and losing others, the boys acquitted themselves admirably and, better than this, they appeared to enjoy themselves very much. It was really good for me to speak to parents, too. We’re always so much more relaxed when the boys are obviously enjoying themselves, aren’t we. The Middle School boys played at Christensen Park (pretty much at the end of New South Head road, next to the Light House) and, being so close to the water, I walked along the headland between games, only to be treated to the sight of a small pod of very large whales swimming gracefully along - this was such a bonus for me.

Year 8 Monitors and Year Group Guides

The Monitors have long suggested that we meet to discuss activities that can be organized for Middle School students, particularly the younger ones. This is a really good idea and I’m pleased about their initiative – it constitutes an attempt to make the Middle School a more cohesive environment. Thus far they’ve suggested some games and other activities. While on the subject of Monitors, I want to congratulate our new cohort for this semester who have already promised to discuss the best ways of introducing girls to the Middle School in 2016.

The above brings home the fact that the young people we work with are, as a general rule, prepared to assist their peers and us in ways that are beneficial to all. Yes, the boys can be awkward at times but, on the whole, working them is a productive, mutually dependent exercise. The do get on well with one another, with parents and also with staff members. And some of our Year 7 and 8 students were instrumental in yesterday’s Girls’ Day In, conducting prospective students and their parents around the grounds. We would be unwise to underestimate the importance and effect of these boys when it comes to representing their school so well to and with others. They did you proud yesterday – they did us proud, too. From all quarters the day was successful and our boys made it so from the Middle School perspective. I want to thank Ms Fiona Taber as well: her experience, wonderfully friendly demeanor and her candor, in no small way, contributed to the success of yesterday’s Girls’ Day In at TAS.

da Vinci

The numbers have increased and I am really pleased that our boys are involved. I know first-hand the amount (over a two month period, at least) of preparation that Ms Catherine Boydell, Mrs Anne Hine, Mrs Regina Pollard, Ms Harriet Symons and Mrs Alison Evans have invested into the decathlon to ensure its success. We have had more than 600 students from all over the New England and North West coming to TAS over the last three days of last week for this event. It was magnificent because the staff, through their meticulous organization, ensured its absolute success. After having spoken to them, students have benefited greatly from the experience as well. Those other schools that came to TAS were treated to excellent hospitality. Again, on their behalf, I thank Ms Catherine Boydell and her staff for all that they have done to ensure the real health of such an initiative.

Mark Harrison
Head of Middle School
Ensemble Night

I would like to join others in congratulating all those who participated in the wonderful Ensemble Night our Music Department staged last Thursday. I cannot recall a performance by such a diverse range of students of all ages, in an event that so warmly engaged the entire audience. For the first night of its kind, it was so enjoyable from the beginning to the end and I look forward to the next occasion, when this wonderfully talented group of musicians reassemble.

Walk Through the Orchestra

We have a large number of students learning instruments, reflecting the importance of music in our lives (and curriculum) and an increasingly strong music program in Junior School. This Thursday, having learnt about orchestras in our music classes, Junior School will have the fantastic opportunity to ‘Walk through the Orchestra’, with Mr Warwick Dunham as conductor leading the way. A fantastic talent and very dedicated educator, we are truly fortunate to have Warwick in Armidale and this is a great opportunity for us to join as a school to interact with Warwick and the musicians, and explore the musical elements of tone, colour, texture and rhythm through an exciting repertoire of carefully selected music.

da Vinci Success

As you will read later in this edition, our Year 5 da Vinci team had an outstanding day last Friday (along with other year groups on Wednesday and Thursday), and as suggested by the very committed organisers, Mrs Alison Evans, Ms Catherine Boydell, Mrs Regina Pollard and Mrs Anne Hine, the key was to work as a team.

It is a competition not for the faint-hearted. Personally, I would have been stuck at the first hurdle which was spelling; words like- Illumination, Phosphorescence, Lambent, Incandescent, Frivolous, Gossamer, Alabaster, Buoyant, Scintillate. Then, there was a poetry composition task and the analysis of poetry; and grammar activities, changing verbs to nouns; and a 150-word micro-story that had to include: a torch, a power blackout, a simile and onomatopoeia; and Mathematics - How much time passed between the solar gas eruption and its detection near Earth?; Philosophy – All oranges are fruits. All fruits grow on trees. Therefore, all oranges grow on trees. Or, all flight attendants know how to swim. Ralph knows how to swim. Hence, Ralph is a flight attendant. And, on top of all this, there was science!!!! And that was just the first session! Read on……
Looking Ahead

Wednesday 2 September   Year K Assembly  
                        NCIS Tennis at Grafton  
Thursday 3 September    JS attending the Armidale Youth Orchestra at NECOM  
                        11am-12pm  
Friday 4 September      Digital Technologies Course at TAS (Year 4 & 5)  
Sunday 6 September      Father’s Day  
Monday 7 September      Year 5 Parent Teacher Interviews  
Tuesday 8 September     Year 5 Parent Teacher Interviews  
Wednesday 9 September  Transition Assembly  
Friday 11 September     Passing Out Parade 2pm - Years 4/5 to attend  
Tuesday 15 September   JS Parent Teacher Interviews  
Wednesday 16 September JS Parent Teacher Interviews  

Junior School Fundraising

As I write we are tallying up the donations from what was an incredibly successful season of Jump Rope for Heart and I know that our students have raised well over $1600 offline. I cannot wait to see the total once the online donations are added.

And today, it was also very gratifying to see our school rallying behind the initiative of our leaders, Frank Perrottet, Will Jubb and Hugo Catterall to support Daffodil Day. With yellow attire and a coin in their pockets, (which was soon to be joined together to create our very own coin line) it was wonderful to see such generous support for another wonderful cause. Congratulations to everyone involved.

Happy Birthday

We wish a very Happy Birthday to Levi Broadfoot and Peter Evans who celebrate their birthdays this week.

The Armidale School hosts da Vinci for Schools in Northern NSW

The decathlon, as the name suggests, consisted of 10 disciplines: English, Spelling, Maths and Chess, Science, Engineering, Art and Poetry, Code Breaking and Creative Producers. The regional theme this year was ‘Light’. Students claimed to use every single part of their brain. They admitted that they were excited, but nervous, as they knew that they were competing against some very worthy opponents. Their opponents were selected from amongst the best and the brightest students, from schools from across the region. It was really nice to see young girls and boys from Dubbo, Moree, Inverell, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes, Scone and Tamworth, playing handball and marbles together after taxing their brains all morning.

All students were challenged in a range of stimulating and engaging activities. Heads were bowed over challenges in consternation. It is a truly wonderful extension and enrichment opportunity that strengthens students’ skills in logic, team building and multi-tasking.

Congratulations to the TAS Year 5 Northern NSW da Vinci team members, who came first overall! The winning team members were: Hugo Catterall, Harrison Ditchfield, Marcus Hempel, Will Jubb, Cameron Le Surf, Frank Perrottet, Harrison Price and Ben Rowe.

We are all looking forward to the Northern NSW da Vinci decathlon in 2016, which TAS will proudly host again.

Premiers Reading Challenge 2015

The PRC for 2015 has now finished. I congratulate all 31 children who registered for the Challenge this year. It is a wonderful thing to see children reading and becoming lost in a story. Due to a variety of reasons, not all children were able to complete the challenge so I would like to say well done those who had a go but didn’t quite get there.

I would like to congratulate the following 11 children who have completed the challenge for 2015 and will receive a certificate from the NSW Premiers next term. Well done to: Sam Ford, Remy Webber, Charlie Ryan, Lachlan Schumacher, Sophia White, Blake Whitehill, Archie Douglas-Menzies, Toby Ford, Jonathan Harris, Alexis Langlois-Peters and Alex Webber.

Well done everyone!

Mrs Janine Ranck  
PRC Coordinator  

Mrs Janine Ranck  
PRC Coordinator
Book Club due Friday 4 September

Junior School students have now brought home brochures from our two book clubs, Lamont and Scholastic. If you wish to purchase from either of the book clubs, please select the books you would like and follow the instructions for ordering and payment that are found on the back page of each brochure.

Scholastic orders can be submitted in two ways: 1) By using the Scholastic ‘LOOP’ online webpage, where you will order and pay by credit card, or 2) by filling in the order form, and placing that order form and a cheque in the RED LETTER BOX in the Junior School office. Orders from Lamont can only be made online through their website, but payment can be made by credit card and Paypal (no cheques). PLEASE NOTE THAT CASH CANNOT BE ACCEPTED BY EITHER CLUB.

Happy reading!

Mrs Natalie Ramazani
Book Club Co-ordinator (nramazan@as.edu.au)

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Holiday borrowing from the library

The coming holidays are the ideal time for children to catch up on reading. Please note that children are able to borrow their usual 2 books from the library for the holidays without a permission note but if they would like to borrow 3 to 6 books parents need to sign the permission note that is attached to this newsletter or email the library at library@as.edu.au

Please return signed note to Library

Permission to borrow library books during the holidays

I give permission for my child

…………………………………………………………………………………..
in Year …………………….. to borrow 3 to 6 books from the TAS library during the holiday period and will return these books in good condition in the first week of Term 4, 2015.
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 …………………….
PYP - Year 5

Year 5 have had a major focus on Learner Profiles this term. All students have become more confident when using these terms and reflecting on their learning journeys. It is exciting to see students challenging themselves and using these attributes across all Key Learning Areas.

The IB Learner Profiles

- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicator
- Principled
- Open-Minded
- Caring
- Courageous
- Balanced
- Reflective

As part of our focus on these attributes Year 5 students completed a task, which involved them identifying Learner Profiles attributes they felt they had developed. They were required to write an example to support their personal evaluation.

An example of this task is shown below.

Mrs Veronica Waters
PYP Coordinator

Marcus Hempel-using the Learner Profile Caring as he assists a TEZ student to create a picture book in English
NCIS Tennis

We wish the following boys; Joshua Miron, Harrison Price, Cameron Le Surf & Lachlan Morgan all the best for the NCIS Tennis tournament in Grafton on Wednesday. We thank Peter Le Surf for helping the team and Ms Jayne Heagney for making the arrangements.

Netball

Scarlett Buntine and Millie Coupland participated in round robin competition on Saturday to draw their successful season to a close. A presentation ceremony took place following their games and the girls received some wonderful mementoes.

The Sparkles had a tense semi-final game against ACSC Sapphires. The girls played well and this week showed real strength in their defence. A highlight of the game was Emily Buntine’s superb goal - a moment of self-belief and she did it! She was ably supported by Casey Smith, who worked tirelessly for her team. As victors of this game with a result of 11-5, the Sparkles advance straight to the Grand Final, which will be played on Saturday, 12 September.

Mrs Trenerry

Emily and Casey are all smiles after their team’s win on Saturday
Show your colours for the region’s Rescue Helicopter!

The colours of the rainbow will come alive during the spectacular Show your Colours for the Chopper event to be held at Armidale’s University of New England on Sunday 6 September 2015.

Come along and be covered in a range of powdered colours during the five kilometre fun run and help raise much needed funds for the region’s Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service, with 100 per cent of registration fees and proceeds from the day staying in the region.

Sign up your friends and family to run, jog, walk or crawl to show your support for the Rescue Helicopter - especially on Fathers’ Day!

This year marks the 40th Anniversary of the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service. Since operations began from the Tamworth base 15 years ago in partnership with NSW Health and the business community, 2,500 people from across the New England and North West regions have received urgent medical treatment.


Boys seeking to volunteer can contact Ms Cressida Mort by email cmort@as.edu.au for more information.
GUYRA
HIGH COUNTRY EPIC
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COME & CHALLENGE YOURSELF AT 1330 METRES

Sign up now to experience some of the oldest tracks in Australia, with the biggest views in the New England including

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- COBB AND CO STOCK ROUTES
- ROBBERS RUN GRAVITY TRAIL
- FAT TYRE FARM BLACK MOUNTAIN
- NEW....STRAVA POINTS FOR PRIZES
- MALPAS DAM AND GARA RIVER GORGE
  • 60KM EPIC
  • 40KM LOOP MISSING RR & FTF BLACK MOUNTAIN
  • 10KM FAMILY FRIENDLY RIDE • 10 TRAIL RUN
  • 8KM HIKE OR FUN RUN
  *INCLUDES FREE CHALLENGE T-SHIRT*

SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2015

REGISTER AT www.switchbackevents.com.au | FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL PETER ON 02 6779 1876
Armidale Little Athletics
Registration Days
Thursday 10 and 17 September 2015
4-6pm
Harris Park Club house, Kirkwood Street, Armidale
Cost: $80 per child/athlete plus uniform
New registrations please bring proof of age
Contact: president@armidalelac.org.au
Phone: 0427 752 022
Website: www.armidalelac.org.au

Minecraft
School Holiday camp
Armidale Golf Club
22-23 September 9am-3pm
*laptops provided

www.buddyverse.net/minecraft-camps
www.facebook.com/minecraftcamps