Swimming, War Cries, Information Evenings and the Weekend

The Middle and Senior School carnivals last week are being described by our senior students as the best they have experienced at TAS and I think that is a fair assessment. The huge participation rates that are a feature of our carnival, both in the pool and the war cries, are not experienced in all schools and we should celebrate them. The tradition of cheering in the struggling swimmer as well as the champions was alive and well last week and no doubt that had much to do with the willingness of so many to participate. The big crowd of families and friends on hand was a great encouragement too, both on Thursday night and through Friday, and I thank all those who were there to offer their support to both swimmers and houses.

The ability of our students to generate such great spirit and positivity expresses how important camaraderie and identity are to them and that is a very healthy thing. This is generated very largely by our Year 12 students and I congratulate them on being behind such an impressive effort.

Charity Fundraising

Beyond the competition in the pool and the fun of the war cries, the swimming carnival provides the opportunity for our prefect body to begin their charity fundraising for the year. They have chosen the Steve Waugh Foundation and its work supporting young people living with rare diseases as their target for 2016 and they are willing to have their heads shaved for the cause. $1600 has been raised already and the fundraising will continue through the term, including at the athletics carnival. This community outreach is important to us and I encourage both parents and students to get behind this very good work.
**Investment in Boarding at TAS**

During the lunch break in the swimming carnival parents had the opportunity to take tours of the new White House extensions for Middle School boys and the refurbished Dangar House for girls. These impressive additions and improvements to our boarding accommodation will be followed by the introduction of new furniture for the senior boys’ houses through the course of the year. Together they represent an investment of $1.6m in boarding infrastructure to both improve and expand our residential offering. As would be expected, the great majority of this investment is in boys’ boarding facilities now, but as girls’ boarding grows there will be a call for new facilities for girls as well.

The furniture roll-out through the year has been funded by the TAS Foundation and I offer thanks to both the Foundation Board and the generous donors who have made this possible.

**Cadet Leadership**

Fifty-five cadets backed up from the swimming carnivals by heading into the bush around Kingstown for three days of intensive leadership training from Saturday to Monday. The demands of the three day program were considerable, particularly in such hot conditions, and all reports indicate that they were met well. This is exactly what we expect from our cadet leaders and I congratulate them on their success. This second session completes the training for our new junior and senior leaders and I wish them well as they use their new skills in the first Activities Day later this week.

**Armidale Triathlon**

The Armidale Triathlon season for 2016 is underway and the TAS presence was clearly on display last weekend. Particular congratulations are due to Brent Rees who won the long course and Year 9 student Sam King who won the short course. I am also pleased to report that triathlon is now a co-educational sport at TAS and congratulate Hannah Neilson and Eliza Ward in Year 7 on completing their first triathlon.

**New School Leaders**

As I write we are preparing to induct a number of new co-curricular captains and prefects and I offer congratulations to the following students on their appointment:

- **Hockey**: Will Brissett (captain) and Ben Moffatt (vice-captain)
- **Football**: Alex Boulus (captain) and Jarrod Bourke (vice-captain)
- **Equestrian**: Sam Finlayson (captain)
- **Girls’ Sport**: Elyssa Rogers-Ellis (captain)
- **Girls’ Creative Arts**: Renee Collins (captain)
- **Prefects**: Emily Blackbourne and Holly Tearle

Mr Murray Guest
Headmaster
**Notes from the Travel Office**

Easter break - free travel between home town and Armidale on charter coach services or train for boarders.

With Easter fast approaching and the booking deadline being 25 February, please contact travel@as.edu.au for information, in particular, if new to the school and needing advice regarding available services - public and charter.

Please note that the boarding houses are closed for the Easter break.

Charter coaches depart on Thursday 24 March (am) and return on Monday 28 March (pm).

---

**Absentees**

If your child is to be absent from school for any reason, including arriving late or leaving early, please advise the appropriate Administration Assistant (see below), explaining the reason for absence by phone, email, or written note before 10.00 am that day. In addition, a written note confirming the circumstances of the absence is required within 7 days.

Sickness in excess of 4 school days requires a doctor’s certificate detailing the nature of sickness and duration of sickness.

Junior School: Phone 6776 5817 or junior@as.edu.au
Middle School: Phone 6776 5819 or middle@as.edu.au
Senior School: Phone 6776 5800 or absentees@as.edu.au

More information about absentees and extended leave can be found [HERE](#).

---

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### Week 4
- **Friday 19 February**  Activities Day 1
  Liaison Parent Lunch (12.30pm)
- **Saturday 20 February**  Sydney Rowing Club Regatta

#### Week 5
- **Monday 22 February**  Scholarship and Co-ed Expo Day
- **Friday 26 February**  Activities Day 2
  7pm Middle School Social with PLC (At TAS)

#### Week 6
- **Monday 29 February - Friday 4 March**
  - Year 12 Primary Industries Work Placement
  - **Tuesday 1 March**  NCIS Swimming (Lismore)
  - **Wednesday 2 March**  Summer Sports and Group Photos
  - **Thursday 3 March**  Year 6 & 7 Parent Teacher Interviews (2-6pm)
    CIS Football Knockout (Bishop Druitt, Coffs Harbour)
  - **Friday 4 March**  Year 6 & 7 Parent Teacher Interviews (2-6pm)

#### Week 7
- **Monday 7 March**  Headmaster’s Country Tour (HMCT) (Inverell)
- **Tuesday 8 March**  HMCT (Moree)
- **Wednesday 9 March**  HMCT (Walgett)
  - NCIS Football
  - Year 9&10 Music Day (NECOM)
  - P&F AGM (7pm)
- **Thursday 10 March**  HMCT (Narrabri)
- **Friday 11 March**  Year 12 Parent Teacher Interviews (2-6pm)
- **Saturday 12 March**  GPS Head of the River
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At the General meeting last week we confirmed that our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will take place, in accordance with our current constitution, on Wednesday 9 March 2016, followed by a General Meeting. It will be held in the Lower Maxwell at 7.00pm and all positions will be declared vacant. There is a nomination form at the end of this Newsletter, and we welcome all nominations for a position. It would be preferred if you could email your completed nominations back to me at suecart@uow.edu.au prior to the meeting.

The P&F will be looking at some small changes to the Constitution prior to the AGM and suggestions will be relayed at a later date.

Would you like to join our happy group? Do you have a little time and or lots of ideas? The more participation we can get, the lighter the load for everyone. If you would like to discuss joining our Executive or general committee, please feel free to call me on 0409 973 247

Click HERE to download P&F Nomination Form.

Swimming Carnivals

The P&F Cake Stall at Junior & Senior Swim Carnivals raised some lovely funds for the P&F. Thank you to everyone who bought/baked/sold/cleaned up. Once again, the combined efforts of many allowed everyone to enjoy the events while lending a hand and catching up with friends. If you missed out, never fear, Athletivs Carnivals will see a need again!

Liaison Parents

Calling all LPs – check your inbox for your invitation to the LP lunch. Just a casual get together on Friday in Big School. Please RSVP. If you have not received your invitation, please contact Rachael Nicoll nicollfamily1@gmail.com today!

This is not a working lunch as such, but rather a get to know you and share ideas on how to create a sense of community within your Year Group.

Mrs Sue Cartwright

TERM 1 Meeting

What a fabulous start to our meetings calendar with faces both new and old in attendance at our first General Meeting for the year last Wednesday night. Not only that but we had our first remote participant who used the technology of Skype to join us. So for those of you who cannot make it to meetings, please do give some consideration to joining us from the comfort of your home. We plan to work on expanding this to a more conference style. A work in progress, but a valuable one indeed.

P&F War Cry Sausage Sizzle

Another inaugural event that made a social start. A suggestion was made to hold a social event prior to the fabulous War Cry night, and the beautiful evening meant that quite a number of parents and families joined together for an easy Sausage Sizzle outside the Junior School. It proved to be a lovely way to catch up with friends as we started our new year. Congratulations from us to all of the houses for their marvellous war cries and the general support and inclusiveness displayed throughout the night.
1 Samuel 17
Famous Last Words

Thomas Andrews who designed the Titanic and died in it when it sank on April 14, 1912, said, “No, not even God could sink the Titanic.”

Also on the Titanic was Lieutenant Wilde - “I have a good feeling about this cruise. Eye, Captain Smith, she’s a fine vessel, completely unsinkable.”

Sometimes we can get it wrong. The tragedy is when it’s based essentially on the overinflated view that we might have of ourselves.

In our reading in Assembly last week, Goliath said to David, “Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?” And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. “Come here,” he said in his famous last words, “and I’ll give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field!”

Those involved in the Titanic, did have good reason for optimism, this was an impressive boat. David had good reason for feeling confident, he was an impressive man. What’s more, David was anything but impressive. He was not much more than a little boy with a juvenile weapon.

This hall is filled with impressive people, young men and women who will do amazing things, many of you who have already achieved things that many, including myself will never accomplish. You have good reason for optimism.

The optimism based on the enormity of the Titanic or on the strength of Goliath was not their undoing. It was that they believed their impressiveness rendered God useless, unnecessary, or irrelevant and in the case of David, lesser.

God is not so small.
Now the school year is really underway, there is a sense that we are now at the ‘pointy end’. Something is in the process of happening, something is required of us, expectations and goals are being established. So let me take a little time to talk about goals.

Goals need to be SMART. Of course this is an acronym that stands for:

**Specific.** Goals need to be specific and concrete, not vague and general.

**Measurable.** Goals need to have some way of being measured. How do I know how I am going in relation to my specific goals. Are there some yardsticks?

**Achievable.** Goals need to be attainable. They are not out of reach but teasingly out there ready for me to grasp.

**Relevant.** Goals need to be relevant to my life at this point. They need to be realistic, attached to my life

**Time-bound.** Goals need to have a time frame. Over what period of time will the goals be in place. We might have goals for today, this week, this month, this term. However, they need to have some motivating power for right now. Goals that are too time distant do not provide much driving power unless they are chunked down into smaller units of time.

There is a saying I have seen on cards in shops. ‘Aim high and even if you miss you will end up in the stars’. Another saying I have heard: ‘If you don’t have a target to aim for, you’re sure to hit it’. So now might be a good time to work on some goals.

Mr Rob Hadfield
Life lessons and Swimming Carnivals

This week students Year 11 were fortunate to have a visit from Brent Sanders, a guest speaker who has visited TAS for many years now. Drawing on his own experience as a juvenile delinquent and then, in a twist of irony, as a policeman for many years, he spoke about the choices we make, the control we have in our decisions, the fear of losing face and the consequences of our choices. He also explored the concept of “Winning Edge Strategies”, outlining his message on achieving success, covering stories and quotations from famous people, including his favourite, “Develop the ability to control the way you think in every situation and you will control most situations you face”.

He finished by talking specifically about sexual offences, complementing messages regarding sexual assault and consent delivered to Years 10-12 last year by the local Magistrate, Karen Stafford, and, in doing so, covered important legal definitions of consent. It was an informative and sobering presentation that had students enthralled.

On a slightly lighter note, I would like to thank both students and families for the success that was the swimming carnival. It is such a vibrant and positive expression of the School’s spirit and it was terrific to see such comprehensive participation in all things, from war cries to swimming, working at P and F stalls to munching away at Dining Room sausage sandwiches. I loved seeing such wonderful levels of participation in the pool and again it speaks volumes of the willingness of TAS students to leave their comfort zone for new experiences as well as the culture of collective support from competitors and spectators alike.

Mr Barney Buntine
Minimbah – a great service opportunity

For some years now senior TAS students have been making Tuesday lunchtime visits to Minimbah, a primary school a few blocks away with a predominantly Aboriginal enrolment, to break down barriers and build positive relationships in a meaningful way.

This year, we go straight to Miss Jo’s Year 2-3 class where we buddy-up and listen to boys and girls read a book to us, before going into the playground for activities as diverse as handball, bullrush, touch football and building in the sandpit. Service in action – and it’s lots of fun.

Students from Years 9-12 are welcome to attend; the bus departs from Brown St at 1.15pm, lunch is provided.

Mr Tim Hughes
Preparations for War Cry Night and the Interhouse Swimming Carnival dominated last week. Each of the Houses demonstrated outstanding commitment and singular focus as they worked on their pieces. It is easy to assume War Cry Night just happens but there is a lot that goes into it. First of all, a creative vision is presented. After discussion and refinement the concept is agreed upon. The vision, now accepted by the group, needs to be brought into reality through dedicated rehearsal before the final delivery.

I’m sure anybody who was present on Thursday night or has seen the highlights on social media will agree the result was truly sensational. Each House delivered exceptional performance. What stood out for me was the inclusive nature of each of the war cries. Everybody in the House was part of it and all can be proud of their efforts. As good as Abbott were, the draw between Croft and Tyrell on the night was a fitting result and the announcement of a decider on Friday morning saw those two Houses go back to the drawing board. While Croft were the eventual winners, and the other two houses may be disappointed with their result, they should all be very proud of the work they put in to turn on a spectacular show for their fellow students, staff and parents.

The spirit demonstrated on Thursday night and on Friday spoke volumes about the strength of the culture here. Certainly there is a fierce rivalry between Houses but there is also a very real sense of community which was evident in the way Houses supported not only their own swimmers but every swimmer who put their hand up to have a go. It was great to see how readily everyone acknowledged the efforts of their ‘opposition’.

I will be speaking with all boarders after Chapel this week and I will be congratulating them on how well they have started this year. My challenge to them, which I am confident they will accept, will be to maintain this spirit of support and cooperation throughout the year as challenges invariably pop up. I will encourage them to work together with each other and with staff to create a vision for 2016 and to commit themselves to making that vision a reality.

Mr Michael Holland
Jarrod Bourke and Charlie Wyatt cheers on young Tyrrell swimmers

Oliver White and Harry McDouall of Abbott House are congratulated by Nav Higgins and Harry Maxwell of Tyrrell

The Croft Year 12 boys were front and centre applauding Green on its warcry

Oliver White and Harry McDouall of Abbott House are congratulated by Nav Higgins and Harry Maxwell of Tyrrell
What a week it’s been with the War Cries Competition on Thursday evening followed by the Swimming Carnival on Friday. I, like the girls, had heard so much about both, but nothing really prepared us for what this TAS event would look or feel like. It was not just the hot, humid air or the fact that there were hundreds of bodies packing into a relevantly small space. It wasn’t the sight of each sporting house dressed in their colours and war paint or the sound of thunderous applause when one of their own won a race. It wasn’t the obvious fun or even the swimming prowess on display, what really impressed was the atmosphere of inclusion that was modelled so clearly by the leaders of each house. Their willingness to ensure all girls and new boys were included and celebrated was a sight to behold. As I watched in awe, I found it hard to fathom that TAS had only been fully co-ed for three weeks! The passion was palpable, the pride clearly evident, the sense of community was almost tangible and the energy was not something I had seen in any other school I’ve been involved in.

Girls and boys alike were competing in all events and so many were willing to push comfort zones and swim for their House whether they were confident or not. The message I kept hearing from the girls especially, was how supported and comfortable they felt with the boys. I think seeing the Houses collectively cheer for the last swimmers in each event, made all the difference, not only to the new girls, but the new boys as well. They all found themselves in a bubble of support and house spirit and what can’t you overcome in yourself when you feel that? It was a wonderful couple of days that showcased the TAS community at its very best.

However, in a place like TAS there’s no time to rest on our laurels. The next new adventure is on the horizon and we are about to hit the next milestone. This week girls and boys alike will have their first Activities Day. Like all Year 12s, our most senior girls will be commencing their first Study Day as they head towards the HSC. Year 11 girls will be either part of Surf Life Saving at Sawtell, joining Rural Fire Service, or in cadets, along with our Year 9 and 10 girls who will form the first all-female platoon at TAS – 7 Platoon. Meanwhile Middle School girls will be alongside the boys in Bush Skills (Year 6) and Rangers (Year 7).

However, don’t for a moment think it will be an easier experience because its comprised of girls, they will be challenged just as much as the boys and are certainly up for the challenge. It’s an exciting new venture and after the first three Activities Days and the girls have been well introduced into the cadet program, 7 Platoon will participate in activities as part of A Coy. I already have some senior girls keen to do the Leaders Course, which we hope will be possible later in the year.
LEADERSHIP, SERVICE AND ADVENTURE

Cadets

Activity Day 1 (18-19 February - Week 4)

Activity Day 1 commenced with a back brief by the SUO and Coy Commanders to the CO MAJ Thatcher on Thursday 11 February at 1.30pm.

A briefing was be delivered to all cadets on Tuesday 16 February during Period 3 (normally Assembly).

All students in Year 7 (Rangers) & our girls (7 Platoon) will have their uniforms and equipment issued on the Activities Days.

Cadets in 1 Platoon and 4 Platoon will attend an overnight bivouac on Thursday night 18 February.

All platoons will be dismissed on Friday ay 3.30pm.

A Coy

1 Platoon - Peatfields
Over night bivouac
Navigation / Trekking
Fieldcraft
Harbour

2 Platoon - Dumaresq Dam
Kayaking
Raft Construction
RATEL

3 Platoon - Gara Gorge
Abseiling/Prussic
Rope Activity
Field Lesson

B Coy

4 Platoon - Peatfields Overflow (Little Mt Duval)
Over night bivouac
Platoon Harbour
Ration Cooking & Hygiene
TASCU/Customs
Navigation / Trekking

5 Platoon - UNE Property ‘Kirby’
Navigation Training
Team Building & Initiative Exercises
Engineering Task

6 Platoon - Dumaresq Dam
Canoeing – C2
First Aid / RATEL
Bush cooking

7 Platoon (Girls) - TAS & Dumaresq Dam
Uniform/kit issue
Intro to kit
Dress and presentation
Campcraft
Canoeing

8 Platoon (Advanced) - Gara Gorge
Abseiling
Climbing

Rangers (Year 7) - TAS
Introduction to Rangers
Clothing/Gear issue & Prep
Campcraft – hootchies
Intro to Drill
Section Comp (Teamwork/Init)

Rolls

Rolls will be posted on the cadet noticeboard and webpage. Leadership appointments will not be notified until completion of the leadership course.

Information for Activity Day 2 on 25/26 Feb (Week 5 will be supplied next week.

Trevor Thatcher
Major (AAC)
Commanding Officer

TAS TALKS | 13
Surf Lifesaving
Activity Day 1 - Friday 19 February

Travel
Depart Friday 19 February
• 6:30am Brown Street.
• Boarders early breakfast at 6am.

Return
• Depart Sawtell Beach 1.00 pm
• Arrive Brown Street at 4.30pm

Staff
Mr J Pennington 0419 250 984
Ms G Chick 0458 006 829
Mr M Ball 0428 427 417

Organisation
Monday
Arrive Sawtell approximately 9:00am.
Unpack bus.
• 9.30 am – 10.30 am Beach Session 1
• 10:30am – 12:00pm Beach Session 2
• 12.00pm-1:00pm Beach Session
• 2.00 pm Depart Sawtell
• 4.30pm Arrive Armidale

Requirements
Sunscreen; Insect repellent; toiletries

Dress
To travel - School sports uniform - Full school tracksuit if necessary, white shirt, blue shorts, white socks, sports shoes, hat, water bottle (to be carried onto beach), TAS swimmers (board shorts are not allowed for lifesaving activities; rashies and caps provided), towel.

Meals
Breakfast: Cereal/toast Spreads at TAS
Lunches: Rolls, Salad filling, sliced meat, fruit

Mr Jim Pennington
Dozens complete five-day leadership camp

Solo navigation, communications skills and learning how to motivate others were all part of the package for 58 students who completed The Armidale School Cadet Unit’s annual leadership course on Monday.

Held at New England University Company Depot (Army Reserve) and in the field at the property ‘Danehurst’ 10km south of Kingstown, the five-day course was run by the TAS Cadet Unit for those cadets who volunteered to take on leadership positions in the second oldest cadet unit in Australia. Operating concurrently, the courses - for junior leaders, senior leaders and cadet under officers (CUOs) - were conducted by seven instructors from TAS and the Australian Army and involved boys from Years 9-11.

Both the junior leaders course (for those interested in leading a section of nine cadets) and the senior course (cadets wanting to lead at platoon level as a sergeant) involved introductory and advanced levels of training in leadership, navigation, communication and team-building.

The CUOs course, for senior boys wanting appointments as platoon commanders and company commanders, revised leadership and navigation training and then focussed primarily on communications skills, including grounding in prepared and impromptu public speaking, briefing others, and emergency situation training.

Scenarios were designed to be realistic in order to test their logic, leadership and resourcefulness.

The style of training is designed to promote and develop initiative, teamwork, responsibility and decision making skills, as well as taking them out of their comfort zones by providing them with challenges in a field environment by day and night.

Meanwhile the TAS Cadet Unit’s first girl cadets will be introduced into the program on Friday, spending training sessions at TAS and Dumaresq Dam. The girls, all those in Year 9 and 10 and those who have selected cadets in Year 11, will be part of 7 Platoon, under the command of teacher LT Jayne Heagney.
Round Square International Conference
2016–  Aiglon College, Switzerland

Applications will be called for in the next fortnight for those Year 11 students who are interested in attending the Round Square International Conference in Switzerland in the first week of Term 4 this year (9-14 October). The delegation size is five (5) students.

The theme of the conference is ‘The Journey that Makes Us’ – a focus locally as this area is full of physical opportunities to journey but also internationally, the mass migration we are seeing right now across nations – will provide challenging points for discussion and attract keynote speakers with personal experiences of their own.

Prior to the conference we will be embarking on a pre-conference experience/s. We are unable to confirm this at present but it will definitely involve some mountain hiking in Switzerland.

Website: The conference website www.rsic2016.org is now live so please take a look. Conference fees are paid for by The Armidale School.

Application forms will be made available in due course.

EXCHANGE

Welcome back Harry Mackenzie who spent a good part of Term 4 and holidays in the UK at Felsted School.

Also returning from a very successful exchange in Canada last term is Mitch Cartwright who addressed assembly last week about life at Glenlyon-Norfolk School on Vancouver Island.

We have two exchange students with us this term, Jonas Soegaard (Croft House) from Herlufshom School in Denmark and Florian Hoch from Birklehof in Germany (Tyrrell House).

Should any TAS family wish to invite either or both of these boys home for a weekend experience – whether it be good old fashioned family time or to a farm, please do not hesitate to contact Anna Barnier or Barney Buntine – your Round Square Representatives.

ROUND SQUARE INTERNATIONAL SERVICE PROJECTS (RSIS)

Every year the Round Square organisation run four (4) Service Projects for students in Round Square schools around the world – India, Peru, Cambodia and South Africa.

This is open to students 16 years or older and generally run in July and December. If you are interested in finding out more about these opportunities, please see Mrs Barnier or check out the Round Square website: www.roundsquare.org
COMMERCIAL PILOT CAREERS SEMINAR
Wednesday 24 Feb 6-9 PM
ARMIDALE CITY BOWLING CLUB 92 -96 DUMARESQ ST


Everybody welcome Parents and advisors are encouraged to participate.

Professional Pilot Training Pty Ltd ACN 105 360 834    AOC NSW 592748-05
45 Aviation Drive Coffs Harbour NSW 2450    02 66515199    enquiries@ppt.net.au
Scholarship Exam

Date: 22 February, 2016

Time: Scholarship Exam from 8.30am

Registration will take place in the TAS Memorial Hall at 8.30am.

The exam commences promptly at 8.45am and concludes at 12.30pm – all writing materials and morning tea will be supplied for the scholarship candidates. At the conclusion of the scholarship exam all students are welcome to join their parents in the Hoskins Centre for a light lunch, attend the Co-ed Expo or take an optional tour of the school.

TAS Co-ed Expo

Date: 22 February, 2016

Time: Two sessions available at 10am - 12midday or 4pm - 6pm

Presentations from key staff at 10.15 and 4.15

Information booths for key areas of the school including academic, boarding and co-curricular will be available to provide the opportunity to meet staff one on one to discuss possibilities for your son or daughter. Optional tours of the school will all be available. Light refreshments will be served.

TAS Scholarship and Co-Ed Expo Day

MONDAY 22 FEBRUARY 10am – 12pm or 4pm – 6pm

TAS has expanded to embrace fully co-educational schooling from Pre-Kinder to Year 12. In 2015 HSC our students achieved the top 3 academic results in the New England / North West region. Students made the all round achievers list for the 7th consecutive year.

Come and talk to our staff about our tradition of excellence in developing independent young people of character and substance.

Discover the range of opportunities available for your son or daughter.

Fair Crack of the Whip

When asked what is the greatest strength of TAS I would always answer, the people: the staff, the students, the parents. Last Thursday night and Friday showcased the very best of the TAS community at the warcry night and swimming carnival. All present witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, massive support from family and friends and the trademark commitment of all TAS staff.

Congratulations to Tyrrell House who won the House Championship and the Points per member. Broughton came a close 2nd in the House Championship and were also victorious in the Tooth and Nail Relay, while Croft House overcame a whip cracking performance from Tyrrell House to take out the Warcry Competition.

Thank you to all who contributed to this wonderful event.

NCIS Swimming

Congratulations to all swimmers who have been selected to represent TAS at the NCIS Swimming Carnival on 1 March. Please ensure that you confirm your attendance by tomorrow so that we can finalise all arrangements.

Netball

I am pleased to announce that Ms Kathryn Tamminga has accepted the appointment as Coordinator of Netball. Madame Tamminga has already received enthusiastic support from other members of staff to coach and we are confident of a lot of interest from girls. There will be a meeting next Monday to provide an overview of the season. Please check the whiteboard in the main quadrangle for details.

Girls aged U12-U15 are invited to trial for the Armidale representative team on Saturday. (see details below)

This Weekend

Summer sports continue this weekend. Basketball midweek competition is underway and all training sessions on Saturday will now be held at TAS in either the gym or outdoor courts. Our cricketers are supporting ‘Pink Stumps Day’ on Saturday and I would encourage you to support this worthy cause by contributing to the collection at any of the grounds on Saturday.
Our rowers continue their preparation for the Head of the River, competing in the Sydney Rowing Club Regatta this weekend, whilst the First XI Football commence their FFA Cup campaign, playing South Armidale United at 3pm on Sunday at Phil Wheaton Oval.

Support is appreciated at all of these events. Best of luck to all!

Any questions?

After a very active start to the term, with many opportunities to get involved, I understand that new students may still be finding their feet. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the staff member in charge of your activity or the Co-Curricular Office at dcc@as.edu.au.

Mr Will Caldwell

Netball

Representative Netball Trials

Armidale District Netball Association (ADNA) will be holding Representative Netball Trials this week as follows:

Thursday 18 February

• 4 – 5pm: U12s and U13s
• 5 – 6pm: U14s and U15s

All selected players are expected to attend skills and fitness sessions each week and will be required to attend netball carnivals on the following dates:

13 March, 20 March, TBC May

Other Important Dates

The State Championships (U17s and above) will be held from 10 – 13 June.

The State Age Championships (U12s, U13s, U14s, U15s) will be held from 1 – 4 July.

Please email info@adna.net.au if you require any further information, or have any questions.

Ms Kathryn Tamminga
Coordinator of Netball

NCIS Football Championships

TAS is hosting the NCIS Football Championships on Wednesday 9 March.

All boys interested in being in the TAS Open Primary boy’s side (Year 6 and under) are requested to attend some trials.

Trials will be held on the following dates:

Thursday 18 and Monday 22 February commencing at 12:30pm on Wakefield.

Please let Mr Polson know as soon as possible if you are unable to attend this trial and still wish to be considered.

Please ensure you bring your soccer gear to change into. Boys will require football boots and shin pads for this trial.

It is envisaged that the team will train at the following times leading up to the championships.

There will be a number of training sessions in the lead up to the day, which will be negotiated when the team is selected.

Students will be required for the full day on Wednesday 9 March, 2016.

Cost will be $10 per head and charged to accounts.

I encourage all Football players in Year 5 and 6 to attend these trials enabling us to pick the best team to contest the championships. A NCIS Primary Boys team will be selected from these championships to attend the Combined Independent Schools (CIS) Championships later in the year.

The team will be coached by Ms Chelsea Webster.

Mr Luke Polson
Cricket

This was the first round since Christmas where all teams have been able to play and there were some impressive individual and team performances. There were some exciting games played where many of the games were decided in the last few overs. With three rounds left to play, TAS are in contention to make the final in all age and grades this season.

Nick Day has been selected to trial for the NSW Country and City Schools Association (CCSCA) Team this week. Nick will travel to Bathurst on Monday to trial with the best players within this association. If he is selected he will play against the best schoolboys in NSW in Sydney in March. Best of luck Nick.

Over the next two weeks the Junior TOAD Cup Team will be selected for the Armidale Inter-School T20 competition. The competition is open to current Years 7-9 players and the selection of the team will be very difficult as there are many players who have played well during the season. The first game will be against O’Connor at 6pm on 4 March at the Sports Ground. This will the first time many of these boys have played under lights and I know they are looking forward to the experience.

This weekend is Pink Stumps Day. I hope all players and parents will support this worthy charity by donating money and buying some of the Pink merchandise.

Good performances this week:

Cameron Patrick 92
Nick Day 49
James Hartog-Smith 44 no
Andrew Kirk 42 no
Sam Weston 36 no
Dom Pilon 35
Ben Rowe 21 ret Jack Evans 5/40
Jack Radford 4/62
Cameron Le Surf 3/10
Ryan Schmitt 3/16
Jonny Beer 3/25
Ben Hamparsum 3/28
Andrew Knight 3/39
Nick Farrar 3/64

CLICK HERE FOR WEEK 4 CRICKET DRAW

Mr Allan Moore
MIC Cricket

Triathlon

Round 6 of the Armidale Triathlon Series was held on Sunday, and TAS athletes competed across the board. With numerous new faces and brilliant conditions, it was a tremendous start to the year. Brent Rees showed the benefits of a serious Christmas training regime, slashing an amazing five minutes off his PB, to win the Open Long Course in 57min. This was wonderful to witness, as Brent now closes in on the NSW All School Triathlon in three weeks time. Sam Finlayson was solid in finishing third, also working hard in preparation for State. In the short course event, TAS had many teams and individuals participating, but it was Samuel King who stole the show, recording his first ever win. On the back of a powerful ride, combined with a massive improvement in his running, Sam took the lead quickly out of the water and never relinquished his place. Charging hard behind him was Lachlan Knowles, who demonstrated a blistering run, totally demolishing the course and moving up several places to finish in 2nd. Michael Paull demonstrated competency across the all three legs to also record his best ever finish. In the ladies, two Year 7 girls stole the show. Hannah Neilson and Eliza Ward, in their first ever Triathlon, raced individually and performed with aplomb. With enthusiasm and determination, they have set the bar, with their performance being a precursor for the rest of the season. This weekend sees a solid training session on Wakefield before the following weekend’s 100km ride.

Mr Jim Pennington
The Cricket Festival

On 17 January, 12 boys, including myself, reunited at school for three days of fast-paced cricket, known as the Festival of Cricket. Lead by our skipper, Ben Moffatt, we played an obscure form of the game, with a 25 over match against Riverview. Ben made the conscious decision to lose the toss and bowl first on what was a nice hot morning in Armidale. We were able to bowl Riverview out for 105 with the wickets shared between the bowlers. Nick Day scored a quick-fire 50, leaving TAS with a meagre few runs to chase, as we won the first game.

Then came Scots College, Warwick. Nick Day continued his good form and hit yet another 50, with this one coming off about 40 balls. With solid scores from most boys in the team, TAS completed the innings at 8-197.

Something we thought to be a very defendable total. That was until Scots put up a good fight with Lachlan Thomas the pick of the bowlers. TAS restricted Scots to 4-138. After an exhausting day we went back to the house for a well-earned rest.

Our first game the next morning was against Shore. We managed to restrict Shore to 147 with Euan Spiers taking 4 wickets. Farrar and Day started the game well with a solid partnership, as TAS sat comfortably at 2-108. However we lost 7 wickets for 23 runs. Needing 18 off the last over to win. With 3 balls to come and 15 runs needed to win, Dom Pilon hit a six leaving us to get 9 off two balls. He clipped the next ball for two runs. This left us with six runs to tie the score. Pilon was able to hit a six to level the scores and the celebration within the team was one the highlights of the Festival.

The afternoon’s game was against Downlands. We would have to win this game to have a chance to win the Festival. With a mixed batting display, Downlands bowled us out for 142. We went out to bowl with a small total to defend, yet one that was somewhat comfortable. That was until Downlands brought out the Australian representative opening batsman, who tore us to shreds. After we dismissed him, we then proceeded to bowl Downlands out for 122. Shore won their last game and therefore, TAS became co-winners of the 2016 Festival of Cricket, along with Shore.

To end the week, we hosted a celebratory dinner in the dining hall with all teams attending. Nick Day and Dom Pilon were picked in the team of the Festival, and felt privileged to be part of such a team.

It should be noted that to be a part of this festival was a big thing for all boys involved and should be what every cricketer at TAS aspires to. The Festival is the capitulation of cricket at TAS, and truly sums up the nature of the FirstXI. I wish all the best to the cricketers at TAS, and hope that you all get the chance to be part of such an event. Finally, thanks must go to Mr Moore for his organisation of the Festival. To Miss Robins for her outstanding scoring during the tournament and to Mr Johnson for his Lehman-like coaching over the week. Also a special mention to the grounds staff for preparing the fields and pitches for us everyday.

Dominic Pilon
JOIN A TAS ENSEMBLE!

We have instrumental and vocal ensembles for all ages, levels of experience and skill. Have a look at the ensemble schedule below and see if there is anything you are interested in. Students are welcome to come down and watch a rehearsal or join in for a try out anytime.

If you are interested in joining a TAS Ensemble, don't be shy... pop down to the Music Centre and talk to one of the Music Team.

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

Ensemble Rehearsal times are listed below this report.

INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL TUITION

Are you interested in trying out an instrument or having a trial with a vocal tutor? Tuition is available at TAS for voice and also on a huge range of instruments - bagpipes, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, flute, piano, trombone, organ, violin, cello, guitar, bass, drums, French horn and recorder, and many more.

Our music tutors are happy to offer a trial lesson on instruments if you want to try before you commit to lessons. Give the Music Team a call on 6776 5890. We are always happy to advise parents/ guardians and students on instrumental and vocal tuition.

Tuition Enrolment Forms are available on the TAS Website if you are keen to start learning.

Ms Roobol, Mrs Butcher, Mrs Baumgartner and Mrs Broadbent
Last week the Year 12 Drama class travelled down to Sydney to watch the OnSTAGE performances and have a variety of theatrical experiences to assist their studies. As part of the trip students got to visit the Belvoir Theatre archives, meet with up-and-coming director Rachel Chant and watch STC’s powerful and moving production The Secret River. While at OnSTAGE we got to watch 2015 TAS student Thomas Bishop’s HSC Drama film, which was selected as one of three films to display the highest standard of that component. Thomas’ achievement was recognised on Friday at a ceremony at the Seymour Centre and it was wonderful to see him represent regional schools and show what talent can be found outside of Sydney.

On the weekend we had a very busy Sunday preparing for Bye Bye Birdie and I particularly thank the many members of the TAS community who came to assist making costumes. This coming weekend we will continue to work on the different production elements of the show, with more work on the set happening on Saturday from 10am in Hoskins and our costume team in Hoskins on Sunday at 1pm. Any volunteers can contact Mrs Leasa Cleaver about costuming (lcleaver@as.edu.au) or myself about the set (aoconnel@as.edu.au).

Trinity lessons commenced this week as so too will the Junior School Drama Club. These are both wonderful opportunities for students to develop their acting and performance skills as well as confidence and presence in front of an audience. It is not too late for students to be involved in both of these activities and anyone interested should contact Mrs Sarah Broadbent (sbroadbe@as.edu.au) for more information or a permission form.

Lastly, there are acting opportunities coming up for for students and members of the TAS community in Armidale with the ADMS about to audition for their short play festival Favourite Shorts. Auditions to be held 7.30pm 19 February and 20 February at The Armidale Playhouse, 309 Beardy Street. Auditions are open for actors aged 15 to 115 and whether you have a lot of acting experience or you have never been in front of an audience before you are invited to come along and have a go. If you are interested email the Producer, Diane, at favshorts@adms.org.au to receive an audition pack.

Mr Andrew O’Connell
Creative Arts Coordinator
THE ARMIDALE SCHOOL Presents

BYE BYE BIRDIE
A Musical Comedy

In Association with NEGS and PLC

BOOK BY MICHAEL STEWART MUSIC BY CHARLES STROUSE
LYRICS BY LEE ADAMS

originally produced by EDWARD PADULA

17, 18, 19 March 7:30pm
18 March 2:00pm
Tickets $25, $20, $15 hoskins.as.edu.au or 6776 5878

by arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd
Settling Continues

Well, Week 3 is ‘done’ and, considering this is a term of ‘firsts’ for so many Middle School students, we’re managing reasonably well. New classes, teachers, sporting teams combine with Chapel, Assembly and Day and Boarding Houses to make for a time of not inconsiderable adjustment. Perhaps the most important aspect of your child’s time at TAS at the moment is the fact that they’re busy. All students, especially boarding students, continue to experience their weekend activities and all are making preparations for the next part of the term, importantly, after having seen you at the swimming carnival. The latter was a great success, as were the Year 7 and 8 Liaison Parent dinners at Affamato and the Wicklow Hotel following the carnival.

Despite the conventional wisdom associated with keeping all new and returning students gainfully employed it would be supremely naïve to think that none is missing home. While their reactions are as various as their individuality, missing home is natural and considering this feeling is an affirmation of ‘things familiar’ and people they know well and trust, it is, as I’ve indicated, actually a very normal reaction and something we expect. While some students may not realise it, in a sense it’s important for us, as adults, to realize that in order for students to express concerns here, they feel comfortable enough at school to actually do this. To their very real credit the boarding staff have been tremendously busy and supportive: I went to prep last week to find that all, including Mr Andrew Junge, were on duty, assisting with Maths and the wider Humanities and, perhaps more importantly at this stage of the year, just talking to our students about their day.

To ensure success I ask that you encourage your children, ask about the good things that happened in their day and, above all else, reassure them when and where necessary about matters requiring same. I also encourage you, now that most have seen your children, to let us know of concerns relating to them. Again, I want you to contact us about any concerns you may have, especially at this stage of the year. This is a real partnership thing and we need your input because, as I said during the recent parent information sessions, you know these young people far better than we do and as such you can help us to deal with these issues before they become problems.
Homework

By this stage of the term you’ll have seen or heard about the School’s year-specific Homework Schedules. While it is easy for us to assist boarders with their new study routines during Prep time, it would be a very good idea, I think, for parents of day students to read through the sheet your son has and assist him with the organisation of a daily work completion routine. You’ll note that the sheets contain subject-specific color codes to facilitate such organisation. If you have any questions about the process, please contact your child’s Homeroom Teacher who will be able to advise you about the best ways to facilitate the process of homework completion and assignment / assessment preparation. What I like about this initiative is that it gives us opportunity to support and guide the boys to the realization of good study habits over time. This issue would have been a discussion point at the recent information sessions and its success is dependent on mutually supportive communications between us. The schedule is reasonable in terms of time allocations for all subjects and sensitive to the needs and interests of younger students in that, very pleasing for a teacher of English, there is provision for reading time, especially at the end of each week. This latter point was made very clear I’m pleased to say during the Year 6, 7 and 8 information night last Friday.

Mr Mark Harrison
Head of Middle School
Participation at TAS

I would like to highlight the importance we place on the role participation at TAS. We feel being engaged at school provides a wonderful vehicle for students to benefit in many areas, enhancing their overall experience. Using the recent swimming carnival as an example, there were many cases where children were keen to challenge themselves and swim in events that they knew they would find difficult. Encouraging persistence and resilience has been a major focus for us in recent years and in today’s world, we know these attitudes, whether in work or play, have become increasingly important.

In today’s TAS Talks, you will see that we are preparing for our winter sporting season and information outlining our offering will be posted soon. And so, it is a good opportunity to reflect on the importance of getting involved, remembering the importance of good sportsmanship and a healthy attitude towards competition. In considering the sport your children play, please take the time to discuss the importance of healthy participation.

House Leadership

Our newly elected House Leaders are settling into their roles admirably having done a wonderful job at our recent swimming carnival. As the year progresses, each House will be encouraged through this structure (and the SRC) to propose ideas for discussion and begin to learn about the nature of contributing to their community. The House leaders will be attending a Leadership Forum in Armidale and this will be a fantastic opportunity for them to learn more about the challenges of leadership. Through the forum of the SRC and ongoing opportunities for School projects, we will be continuing to work with every student to provide opportunities to contribute responsibly to their school community and beyond.

Traffic Safety

It is always important to focus on the dangers of cars and delivering and collecting children from school. Whether private or public transport, pedestrian or pushbike the safety our all children is paramount. Again, I appeal to parents to use care and patience and assist whenever possible with both the morning and afternoon drop off and collection points.

Please remember that the turning circle is a continuous motion area and parking or stopping can create serious issues for the safety of our children. Please contact me if you see a need, as a number of concerned parents have, and we will continue to work together focus on this very important time of the day for our kids.

Mr Ian Lloyd - Head of Junior School
## Looking Ahead

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17 February</td>
<td>Year 4 Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 18 February</td>
<td>PSSA Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 19 February</td>
<td>Activities Day No 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 22 February</td>
<td>TAS Expo and Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 24 February</td>
<td>Year 3 Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 26 February</td>
<td>Activities Day No 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clean Up Australia Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Armidale Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 27 February</td>
<td>Armidale Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 29 February</td>
<td>NCSA Swimmers depart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 1 March</td>
<td>NCSA Swimming in Lismore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2 March</td>
<td>Year 2 Assembly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Consent form

In 2016, we have again adopted the process for local excursions of having a generic form to complete. Please return the completed form that was recently emailed if you have not already done so.

### Allergies

The start of a new school year is the time to reinforce our awareness of allergies and in particular those from foods such as peanuts, tree nuts, milk, eggs, and shellfish. We do have children in our Junior School who are allergic to these foods so it is imperative that if you bring in any item of food, such as a birthday cake for your child's birthday that the class teacher be made aware of exactly what is in the food item. We would particularly like to encourage children not to bring in nut spreads also, such as peanut butter and Nutella spreads. We would appreciate your assistance in this matter.

### Armidale Show – 26 & 27 February

The Armidale Show is open for entries in many categories this year. This wonderful local event relies so much on the community for its future. While the School will use this opportunity to include some classwork where they can, please encourage your children to enter into the “children’s work” section of the Armidale Show this year or any other category that takes their fancy.

For entry forms and further information please visit the [Armidale Show website](#).

Good luck to all who enter.

### Happy Birthday

This week, we wish a very happy birthday to Conal Nicoll.

**Mrs Anne Hine**

### Lost Property

Would parents please check names on your child’s belongings to see if any items have arrived at your home that do not belong there. If you locate any items that do not belong where they are found, please return them to Reception.

### Camp Australia

What a fantastic start to 2016. We would like to welcome back existing children as well as all the new faces. We hope that everyone had a great Christmas and New Year break and we look forward to a fulfilling year at Camp Australia’s After School Care.

At The Armidale School Camp Australia’s After School Programme we have two qualified and permanent staff members. Jacinta who is our service coordinator and Katrina who is our assistant. Jacinta is from the Tamworth area and has been in the Childcare industry for 6 years and loves the enjoyment and happiness children bring to the Service. Katrina is locally from the Armidale area. She is currently studying cert III in Child Care and is looking forward to a career in the Child Care industry.

At Camp Australia’s After School Care we provide a safe and happy environment where the children can explore and play while under the supervision of our Camp Australia staff. At After School Care we provide a healthy snack of fruit or vegetables along with the choice of an additional food each afternoon.

We provide spontaneous and programed activities that reflect the children’s interests and choices. We value and respect the families’ feedback and suggestions given to Camp Australia’s After School Care staff and we strive to achieve any suggestions given to improve the program at the service.

Registration is secure and convenient and will give you 24/7 access to managing your account and making booking though the parent portal where you can view statements, payment options and ending or creating a booking for your child. You can also contact staff on the service mobile in regards to making a booking or enquires you may have 0450 265 303. Please go to [www.campaustralia.com.au](http://www.campaustralia.com.au) to start the registration process.

**Camp Australia – The Armidale School**

**After School Care. Operations hours Mon – Fri 3.30pm – 6pm**

M: 0450 265 303

www.campaustralia.com.au
The Five Essential Elements of the PYP

The Primary Years Programme has an inquiry-based approach that aims to provide opportunities for student learning that is significant, relevant, engaging and challenging. (IB Standards and Practices: Practice C2.6 IB 2010)

This week the focus is on the skills, which are fully embedded into the Primary Years Programme.

TAS Junior School staff view skills-based teaching, which may not be directly related to a unit of inquiry as being essential. Skills-based teaching refers to the teaching of specific skills, which may not directly relate to a unit of inquiry, however will support mastery and increase skills in areas such as literacy and numeracy. In an inquiry-based environment, students must be equipped with the many skills required for learning. The skills identified by the PYP are outlined below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thinking Skills</th>
<th>Acquisition of Knowledge, Comprehension, Application, Analysis, Synthesis, Evaluation, Dialectical thought and Metacognition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Skills</td>
<td>Accepting responsibility, Respecting others, Cooperating, Resolving conflict, Group decision-making and Adopting a variety of group roles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing, Viewing, Presenting, Non-verbal communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-management Skills</td>
<td>Gross motor skills, Fine motor skills, Spatial awareness, Organisation, Time management, Safety, Healthy lifestyle, codes of behaviour and Informed choices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Skills</td>
<td>Formulating questions, Observing Planning, Collecting data, Recording data Organizing data, Interpreting data and Presenting research findings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These skills are valuable, not only in the units of inquiry, but also in all areas of teaching and are essential as we prepare our students for life outside the school.

Mrs Veronica Waters
PYP Coordinator
Chess Club

Chess Club is in full swing! Every Tuesday morning (8:15-8:45), the Chess Club meets in the E & E room. All levels of expertise are welcome, from Beginners to budding Chess whizzes. Middle School students attend to mentor new players by sharing their tricks and helpful tips. There will be inter-school competitions later in the term, including the NSW Junior Chess League competition. Please come and join the fun!

Mrs Anne Hine

Book Club

TAS Library will be running two book clubs again this year. Brochures will come home from both Scholastic, plus another from Carnival Book Club, an Australian-owned company. Both brochures will offer books and other items which will span the K-5 age range in one comprehensive catalogue.

While, most importantly, Book Clubs can encourage voluntary reading at home, they also offer a good fund raising opportunity for our school with 20 per cent of proceeds coming back to us to purchase new resources for our library and classrooms.

Ordering and payment for both clubs can be made via each of their websites, according to the instructions on the order form in the brochures. Payment by cheque is also still accepted, by placing both your cheque and order form in the red letterbox located at the Junior School reception desk. Please note that cash is not accepted and will be returned to you. THE CLOSING DATE FOR SCHOLASTIC IS 19 FEBRUARY, WHILE CARNIVAL WILL CLOSE ON 29 FEBRUARY. If you have any questions, I can be contacted in the library or at nramazan@as.edu.au.

Happy reading!

Mrs Natalie Ramazani
TAS Library

da Vinci Decathlon

In preparation for our upcoming excursion to Knox Grammar School, to compete in the Year 5 & 6 da Vinci decathlon, the da Vinci Club will meet every Wednesday morning before school in the E & E room in the Junior School. We will be exploring ideas and solving challenges in each of the 10 disciplines that make up the decathlon. They are: Science, Creative Producers, Art and Poetry, Mathematics and Chess, Engineering, Cartography, Code Breaking, General Knowledge, English and Philosophy. Come along and have a go at challenging yourself!

The following are a couple of warm-up challenges for you. Can you and your friends solve them? (Visit Mrs Hine's room for the answers.)

*A farmer owns several black coloured cows and several brown coloured cows. He finds that 4 black cows and 3 brown cows give the same amount of milk in 5 days as 3 black cows and 5 brown cows give in 4 days. Which colour cow gives more milk and by what proportion?

**I am the beginning of the end, and the end of time and space. I am essential to creation, and I surround every place. What am I?

***What does one call a baby koala?

****Australia has the world’s largest reptile. Name it.

Good Luck!

Mrs Anne Hine
Pink Stumps Day

Pink Stumps Day is this Saturday, 20 February.

All funds raised go to the McGrath Foundation to help place breast care nurses in communities across Australia. It’s a very worthwhile charity, and a day that is fun to participate in.

Raffle: NSW Blues signed bat (signed by the 2014/15 NSW cricket team - e.g., Michael Clarke, Steve Smith, David Warner, Mitchell Starc and more). Tickets are $1 each.

With the washed out Sydney Test in January (when the "Pink Day" is usually held) the McGrath Foundation is, this year, relying more than ever on Pink Stumps Day fundraising such as ours to help reach their target of three new nurses this year.

PSSA Swimming Carnival – Monckton Aquatic Centre, Thursday 18 February

The annual PSSA Swimming Carnival will be held this Thursday at the Monckton Aquatic Centre. A TAS minibus will leave TAS at 8:15am from Brown Street Turning Circle. Students will be returned to TAS by 3:15pm. Students may wish to meet the team at the pool. Please inform Mrs Wright if you will be meeting at the pool on Thursday. Please bring $3 entry fee on the day.

All permission notes should have been returned to Mrs Wright.

NCIS Swimming Carnival – Lismore, Tuesday, 1 March

NCIS Swimming Permission notes will be sent home this week. Please return to Mrs Wright by Monday, 22 February. Please note the team will travel to Lismore on Monday, leaving school at 1pm.

All information and details of the trip will accompany the permission note.

Winter Sports Nomination

In a few weeks your child will receive a Winter Sports nomination form. All details about the sports on offer this year will be in future TAS talks and posted on the our Web page.

Gymnastics

Warm ups were hardly necessary on a very hot Monday afternoon at the Gymnastics Club but warm up we did with a fun game of Pigs and Pigeons followed by some stretches. Our group rotation included a variety of swings on the parallel bars and pommel. The activities comprised improving our skills in Locomotion and Rotations. The final group circuit saw us springing and landing into the pit and some spring board work. The focus of our gymnastics troupe is impressive with everyone rising to the challenges and showing dedication and improvement.

Mrs Anne Trenerry

TAS Thunder - Miniball

Monday saw the Mighty TAS Thunder team of Flynn Broadfoot, Oliver Smart, Henry Kirton, Thomas Dundon and Blair Eichorn (Lincoln Connock away) hit the boards at The Den for the first time this term against PLC. It was pleasing to see the team gel as the game progressed, with great improvements in passing and dribbling the ball. I look forward to seeing how the season develops and hope that the enthusiasm and energy shown on Monday continues, as it was an impressive display.

Mr Alex Portell
Is this your shoe?

Who owns this shoe? At the TAS swimming carnival on Friday, the owner made an accidental trade for an almost identical shoe owned by Ziggy Harris, Year 11. However while this Asics brand shoe has an orange sole inside it and is size 10, Ziggy’s is a size US 12 - but more importantly has a blue and green orthotic inside it worth hundreds of dollars! If you or your child has a shoe of this description, please check you have a matching pair - because Ziggy’s won’t be of any use to anyone else either! If found please drop it into Reception and email reception@as.edu.au so the swap can be made.