

TAS TALKS #1

Weekly Newsletter of The Armidale School

Term 3, Week 1 – Wednesday 23 July, 2008

House on Duty is Croft – ah 6776 5843

Headmaster – Murray Guest



Welcome to all students, staff and families to the new school term and the start of second semester. I particularly welcome the eight new students who join us this term, including our five new students from overseas.

Once again the school break has been full of activity and opportunity for many of our students and reports are now coming through from another very successful Forensic Science Camp, Rugby trips to New Zealand and the Gold Coast, NIDA drama workshops at TAS and the family and competitive ski trips that enjoyed such wonderful falls of fresh snow last week.

I will join the last of our holiday travellers, the TAS Rifle Team, as they compete at the GPS Championships today. The team has already enjoyed great success at the All Schools' Championships last week and I wish them steady hands and keen eyes today.

On a personal note, it is good to be back at school after taking leave through Term 2. My time away has been refreshing and rewarding, both personally and professionally, and I am already enjoying the opportunity to share those experiences with colleagues here.

Forensic Science

The 2008 Forensic Science Camp was, very sadly, the final one to be led by Mr Kel Hardingham who has lead the camps for ten years. He has handed over the reigns for future camps to Mrs Wark. All who have been involved with Forensic Science through the years, as students, leaders or parents, will know what a powerful experience it is and we owe a debt to Mr Hardingham as its creator and the mentor of many young scientists. To bring great adventure and fun to learning is the aspiration of every educator and Mr Hardingham's work stands as an inspiration to us.

The institution of Forensic Science remains strong at TAS and will continue as one of Kel's legacies to us.

New Government Funding for TAS and PLC

Over the holiday break we received the great news that the TAS and PLC application for funding under the Federal Government's \$2.5 billion Trade Training Centres in Schools program was successful and yesterday afternoon we welcomed the Deputy Prime Minister, Ms Julia Gillard, as she visited the School to recognise this success. This was a part of the Government's pre-election education platform and to see it implemented so swiftly is very encouraging indeed.

The TAS and PLC consortium will receive funding of almost \$3 million to build new hospitality facilities at PLC, expand our agriculture facilities and build a Technology Centre at TAS to house courses in Metals and Engineering, Automotive skills and the new area of Electrotechnology.

For TAS this offers the potential to give wider access to skill development in both traditional and new technologies and fits very well with the strong interest in developing sustainability programs across the School. That every student, including those undertaking the most academic senior course, will have the opportunity to access practical skill areas of interest to them is a very good thing for the School as a whole.

The vision for this application and the development of new courses that comes with it is largely the work of our Director of Studies, Mr Hall, and I offer him congratulations on this significant success for the School. The application has brought together strong partnerships through the Armidale community, not only between TAS and PLC, but also in collaboration with TAFE and other training providers and the enthusiasm and direct financial support of the Armidale Dumaresq Council.

All of this is evidence of the general sense that this new direction from the Government is a good initiative for schools.

Weekly Calendar

Wednesday 23 July

| | |
|--------|--------------------------------------|
| | GPS Shooting Competition |
| 4.30pm | Junior Stage Band rehearsal |
| 6.00pm | Boarders Formal Dinner – Dining Hall |
| 6.00pm | Big Band rehearsal |
| 7.00pm | Senior Jazz |

Thursday 24 July

| | |
|--------|-----------------------|
| 7.45am | TAS Singers rehearsal |
|--------|-----------------------|

Friday 25 July

| | |
|--------|-----------------------------------|
| 3.45pm | Chapel Choir Rehearse in Chapel |
| 4.00pm | LBK–Prime Cup rugby(13s to Opens) |

Saturday 26 July

| | |
|--------|---|
| 7.45am | 14A, 14B, 15A rugby depart for Wollongbar/Alstonville |
|--------|---|

Sunday 27 July

| | |
|--------|---|
| 9.30pm | Choral Communion |
| 4.00pm | Rugby returns from Wollongbar/Alstonville |

Monday 28 July

| | |
|--------|--------------------------|
| | NAIDOC week celebrations |
| 1.20pm | Senior strings rehearsal |
| 3.45pm | Orchestra rehearsal |

Tuesday 29 July

| | |
|--------|----------------------------------|
| 7.45am | TAS Singers rehearsal |
| | NAIDOC week celebrations |
| | Year 12 Physics workshops at UNE |

Wednesday 30 July

| | |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| | NAIDOC week celebrations |
| 4.00pm | Year 10 depart for Moonbi Range |
| 4.30pm | Junior Stage Band rehearsal |
| 6.00pm | Big Band rehearsal |
| 6.30pm | GAP Info Evening –Lower Maxwell |
| 7.00pm | Senior Jazz |

Thursday 31 July

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 7.45am | TAS Singers rehearsal |
| | NAIDOC week celebrations |
| | Transition Interviews for 2009 |
| | Australian Maths competition |
| 3.30pm | Year 10 return from Moonbi |
| 1.30–4.30pm | Year 11 Parent/Teacher Interviews, Hall |
| 4.30–5.30pm | Year 11 Information Session, Big School |

Friday 1 August

| | |
|-------------|--|
| | NAIDOC week celebrations |
| | Transition Interviews for 2009 |
| 1.30–5.30pm | Year 11 Parent/Teacher Interviews |
| 3.45pm | Chapel Choir Rehearse in Chapel |
| 4.00pm | LBK–Prime Cup rugby (13s to Opens) – Semi Finals |

Saturday 2 August

Sunday 3 August

| | |
|--------|-------------------|
| 8.00am | Choir to St Marys |
| 9.30am | Morning Prayer |

Monday 4 August

| | |
|--------|---------------------------------------|
| | Year 11 Construction – work placement |
| 1.20pm | Senior strings rehearsal |
| 3.45pm | Orchestra rehearsal |

Tuesday 5 August

| | |
|--------|---|
| 7.45am | TAS Singers rehearsal |
| | Year 11 Construction – work placement |
| | Winter Photos – from 3.00pm – see list at http://www.as.edu.au/current_happenings/activities/sport/current_sport.php |
| | Year 8 Language Competency assessment |

Wednesday 6 August

| | |
|--------|---------------------------------------|
| | Year 11 Construction – work placement |
| | Winter Photos – from 8.30am |
| | Year 9 Language Competency assessment |
| 6.00pm | In House Concert in Big School |
| 4.30pm | Junior Stage Band rehearsal |
| 6.00pm | Big Band rehearsal |
| 7.00pm | Senior Jazz |

Chaplain – Richard Newton

Hope – 1 Corinthians 13

Late in the evening many Australians have been slipping on the lycra, hopping on the couch or in the case of the 'Mosslike' on their bike trainer that they may ride the gruelling Tour de France with our great Australian hope Cadel Evans. With every pedal stroke they have strained with the peleton. This interest in men wearing tight fitting clothing has been largely motivated by the first Australian ever to be favourite to win the tour, Cadel Evans.

Or perhaps its been enjoying Gabrielle Gate prepare an asparagus and goat cheese tart or beef rib with a red wine sauce.

Whether your interest is Cadel or culinary, I trust you still hope with the rest of us that Cadel can win – or are you not Australian? Do you hope that he can ride through the Alps clinging to the lead then, in the last time trial, blitz the field with devastating speed? Have you any hope left in Cadel or is 8 seconds insurmountable?

The race is on a knife-edge, as Evans said 'this makes for interesting racing – at least for the spectators.'

You see it is not so interesting if you are one of the riders, it is more painful than interesting, they would prefer to have the security and comfort of knowing that at the end of all the pain, sweat and blood there will be the reward.

This is where our hope that Cadel might win and the hope spoken of in the School reading differ. The hope Paul refers to is a sure thing. It is an eager expectation; we wait for its arrival. It is patient endurance that surpasses even a cyclist straining through the French Alps. It takes courage to put confidence in the promises of God, yet it is sure because of what God has already done, there is comfort and security in life's race.

No one is a spectator in life, we all live it, the thrill of uncertainty is no-one's pleasure. Yet we can hope, wait with certainty, for a time when all of God's promises will be fulfilled.

This Week on the Web

Hawkesbury Canoe Classic:

http://www.as.edu.au/current_happenings/activities/hcc/hawkesbury.php

Croft Athletics:

http://www.as.edu.au/current_happenings/boarding/croft/croft_sport.php

Kayaking round Hinchinbrook Island:

http://www.as.edu.au/current_happenings/activities/current_activities.php

Round Square

http://www.as.edu.au/current_happenings/roundsquare/current_round_square.php

Middle School

http://www.as.edu.au/current_happenings/boarding/mschool/hbook/ms-tour.php

Historical Music Hall photos

http://www.as.edu.au/community/archives/photographs/Music_Hall/index.html

General Notices

Rio Tinto Big Science Competition

The results of this demanding Science competition are to hand and Years 7, 8 and 9 show a marked and, very pleasing, improvement on last year's results when compared to those around the State.

This is clearly shown below:

| Year | TAS Mean | State Mean |
|------|----------|------------|
| 7 | 82.67 | 71.0 |
| 8 | 90.17 | 80.0 |
| 9 | 60.89 | 60 |
| 10 | 59.04 | 63.0 |
| 11 | 70.17 | 75 |

As reported last year, it is understandable that the Year 11 students perform below State mean as they write the same exam as the Year 12's who do not undertake the test at TAS.

Particular congratulations go to the following:

High Distinction: Jack Tearle (Year 7)

Distinctions: Waseem Sarjeev (Year 7), Thomas Wyatt, Arthur Lloyd, James Kenelly (all Year 8), Timothy Williamson, Ben Brunckhorst, Joseph Kozera, (all Year 9), Jock Barnett (Year 10).

Mr W D Richards, Science Co-ordinator

Year 11 Parent/Teacher Interviews

These will be held in the Memorial Hall on:

Thursday 31 July 1.30 – 4.30pm

Friday 1 August 1.30 – 5.30pm

An Information Session will be held in Big School on:

Thursday 31 July 4.30 – 5.30pm

Please contact Mrs Sadler if you require any further information on 6776 5805 or email msadler@as.edu.au

ARMIDALE JAZZ AND THE FRIENDS OF NERAM

CONTINUE OUR FUNDRAISING CONCERTS
IN THE GALLERY AT

THE NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL ART MUSEUM

KENTUCKY STREET, ARMIDALE

7PM FRIDAY 1ST AUGUST SANDIE WHITE & FRIENDS

\$25 ENTRY – \$20 FRIENDS OF NERAM,

AJC MEMBERS – \$15 STUDENTS/CONC

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

SUPPORTED BY:

THE TAS JAZZ BAND

PRIOR TO THE CONCERT ALL ARE WELCOME
TO ATTEND THE ISABELLE DEVOS
EXHIBITION OPENING AT 6.00PM

PLEASE E-MAIL

TownAndGownEvents@hotmail.com

OR PHONE JAZZ CLUB PREZ KELLIE LEECH

ON 0427 025 987 FOR MORE INFORMATION

**'LET'S KEEP JAZZ MUSIC &
NERAM ALIVE & KICKING!'**

Reminder to Mathematics Students

The Australian Mathematics Competition is on in Week 2 (next week) for entrants from Years 6–12. Students in Middle School should check the Middle School notice board and students from Senior School, the Cash Block notice board, to confirm their entry and details of time, venue and equipment required. All students in the top set are automatically entered into this competition and students in other classes nominated earlier in the year.

Students will need to reschedule music lessons or other commitments. Any concerns can be directed to your classroom teacher or the Mathematics Department.

NAIDOC Week

Next week Year 10 students will participate in an excursion to the Moonbi Ranges as part of our celebration of NAIDOC week. Students will leave at 4.00pm on Wednesday 30 July, and return by 3.30pm the following day.

During the trip, students will tour sites of significance to indigenous Australians on the 'Minbalup' property, and also learn the art of stone tool-making. Wood heater dormitory accommodation is provided on the property but students will be required to bring their own sleeping bags and pillowslips. The cost of the trip will be approximately \$35, which includes travel, food and activities.

Mr Toakley, HSIE Co-ordinator

NCSS Challenge 2008

Begins next Monday, 28 July!

This is a programming challenge available to Australian students in Years 7 through to 11 and uses a programming language called Python. All the details and marking for the challenge are completed online.

Mr Scott and Mr Nexo are the representatives at school who are able to assist any student who might be interested in being involved.

Last year, Sam Colbran won the under Year 9 section of the competition.

The Challenge is run by the School of Information Technologies, at the University of Sydney as part of the ACS National Computer Science School (NCSS).

The Web link to the challenge homepage is:

<http://challenge.ncss.edu.au/>

Please contact Mr Scott (tscott@as.edu.au) or phone 0427277702 if you are interested in being involved.

Foundation Facts

Introducing the Foundation Team

This week's Foundation Fact is all about introducing the team of people who sit on the Foundation Board and are responsible for its success.

You may be surprised to learn that the board is made up of parents, staff, P&F, School Council representatives and Old Boys all of whom share a deep desire to ensure a bright and prosperous future for the school.



You probably recognise Geoff Allen, pictured here, who is the Chairman of the Foundation and has three children at TAS in Middle and Junior School. The other members of the Board may also be names you are familiar with. They are:

Andrew Murray, Cheryl Oppenheimer, Mindy McDouall, Pip Warrick, Dick Hodgson, Gordon Burke, Pat Bradley, Simon Reed, Rob Heath and Rob Busby. They all commit time and energy to the Foundation for which we are very grateful.

Their role on the Board is to ensure the funds available for investment are well managed and allocated accordingly toward scholarships, bursaries and the construction and renovation of school buildings. Their other responsibility is to maintain growth and interest in the Foundation so current and future generations of students can benefit from a school going from strength to strength.

If you are interested in donating to the Foundation, please email Cressida Mort on cmort@as.edu.au or call her on 6776 5839

Violin and Viola Lessons

Offering individualised music instruction for all ages and abilities. NECOM Member Educator, NEMTA member
Enquiries Sofia Dodds: 0428 385 824

Musical Notes – Jan Slater

Welcome back to Term 3, as well as the Cadet Band playing this term, here are some dates for the diary;

Chapel Choir

Choral Communion Sunday 27 July 9.00am TAS Chapel

Choral Communion at St Mary's 8.00am

Choral Communion Sunday 21 September 9.30am TAS Chapel (Old Boys Weekend)

Choral Communion Friday 26 September 11.00am Memorial Hall (Valedictory Day)

In-House Recitals

Wednesday 6 July

Thursday 11 September (Middle-School students)

Jazz Band – Friday 1 August at NERAM at 7.00pm

Other

Language Festival 4 September

Junior School Showcase 24 September

And finally,

A violist is sitting in the front row, crying hysterically. The conductor asks the violist, "What's wrong?"

The violist answers, "The second oboe loosened one of my tuning pegs."

The conductor replied, "I admit, that seems a little childish, but nothing to get so upset about. Why are you crying?"

To which the violist replied, "He won't tell me which one!!"

Student Services – Vickey O'Brien

TAS Minibus

This will run at the end of Week 5 (22 to 24 August) for students living in the Tamworth, Gunnedah, Narrabri and Moree districts. Seats are limited – please contact Vickey O'Brien (6776 5806) to make a booking.

Please note there is no mid-term break for TAS in Term 3.

Concession ID Cards

Concession cards are available for students who have turned 16. This Concession ID will allow students to travel for half fare on trains, buses and ferries in NSW. Students 16 years and over should see Mrs O'Brien in the Students Services Office. The concession card will be issued immediately and is valid until March 2009.

Year 12 Record of Achievement Forms

These should be returned to Mrs O'Brien by Friday 1 August.

P&F Association

Hopefully everyone is rested and ready for the new term after a well deserved break!

Next week we will be starting our P&F Pie Drive, which will run for two weeks. There will be a great selection available, all made freshly by Moxons, so stock up your freezer for and help your P&F at the same time!

A reminder that this term's P&F meeting will be held in the Lower Maxwell Room on Wednesday 13 August at 7.00 pm. Please come if you are able, as your input is greatly valued. Looking forward to a busy and productive term!!

Dotty & Janine

Careers – Trevor Thatcher

http://www.as.edu.au/current_happenings/careers/careers.php

GAP Year Information Evening

6.30 – 8.00pm Wednesday 30th July

Lower Maxwell Room

New England Travel will run an information session on the-GAP year covering all relevant areas such as visas, flight bookings, travel and holiday information. The session is aimed at Year 11 and 12s thinking about a GAP year after HSC.

UNSW Parent/Student Info Evening? Thursday 24 July 2008

John B Reid Theatre, AGSM Kensington (UNSW campus)

(Enter via Gate 11, Botany Street)

6.00pm – 6.30pm – Registration

6.30pm – 7.30pm – Presentation

7.30pm – 8.30pm – Refreshments

Program

Introducing the Faculty of Science

Overview of Science programs

Career Opportunities

Scholarships and Prizes

Student Life at UNSW

rsvp@science.unsw.edu.au

Further enquiries please contact Rachelle Carritt

T: 02 9385 7307 E: r.carritt@unsw.edu.au

University of Wollongong

Early Entry to UOW

Applications open 1st July – 23rd September 2008

Interviews to be held on 29th September – 3rd October 2008

Early entry is offered in the following areas:

Arts – all degrees (except for the Bachelor of Communication & Media Studies International Honours)

Creative Arts – all degrees

Commerce – all degrees

Education – ONLY available for the Bachelor of Education.

The Early Years, Bachelor of Science Education or Bachelor of Maths Education.

Engineering – all degrees

HBS – ONLY available for Bachelor of Arts (Population Health), Bachelor of Nursing, Bachelor of Health Science in Indigenous Health Studies

Informatics – all degrees

Law – all degrees

Science – all degrees (except for the Bachelor of International Science)

Early entry is NOT available for Deans Scholars Programs in any facilities (except for Creative Arts).

For further information please call 1300 367 869 or email: uniadvice@uow.edu.au

Sporting News

http://www.as.edu.au/current_happenings/activities/sport/current_sport.php

Winter Photos

These will be taken on Tuesday 5 August (3:00pm to 5:30pm) and Wednesday 6 August (8:30am to 5:30pm). A copy of the schedules for each day, plus 'Dress for Photos' is on the TAS website on the 'Sport Homepage' – see above.

Dress for Students

Cadets: Anzac guard: Polyesters with hat and clean boots. Officers & NCOS: DPCU, no hat, clean boots.

Rugby: Full rugby uniform including boots.

Football (Soccer): Full soccer uniform including boots.

Hockey: Full hockey uniform including boots.

Primary School Athletics and Cross-Country: Junior School: PE uniform. Middle School: TAS Sports polo shirt, blue PE/ soccer shorts, white socks and joggers.

Tennis: 1st IV: white 1st IV polo shirt, blue soccer shorts, white socks and joggers. Tennis team: 1st IV polo shirt or TAS sport polo shirt, blue soccer shorts, white socks and joggers.

Shooting 1st VIII & 2nd VIII: Full School uniform (No 1) including blazer.

Junior School & Middle School Year photos: Full School uniform.

Athletics Champions (does not include 'runners-up') (Middle School and Senior School): House polo shirt, TAS track-suit pants, white socks and joggers.

Coonabarbran Horse Expo Team: Wear the uniform you wore at the Expo.

GPS Athletics Team: TAS sport polo shirt, TAS track suit pants, joggers.

Music groups and Choir groups: Full School uniform (No 1)

NOTE: Appropriate footwear must be worn with all photos.

Rugby

LBK-Prime Cup for Friday 25 July

A complete 'Information Sheet' is available on the TAS website http://www.as.edu.au/current_happenings/activities/sport/rugby.php

Teams playing: 1st XV, 2nd XV, 3rd XV, 16As, 16Bs, 15Bs, 13As & 13Bs

Travel: 3 x Edwards coaches, all teams depart TAS 4:00pm

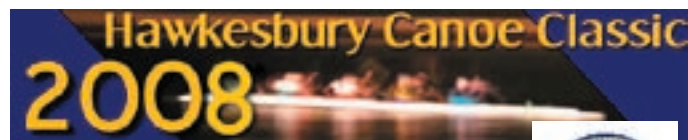
Return times:

16As, 16Bs, 15Bs, 13As & 13Bs: 10:50pm

1st XV, 2nd XV & 3rd XV: 11:50pm

Dinner: McDonalds.

Venues: Tamworth 'Magpies' oval (T); Viaduct Park (V1 & V2); 'Pirates' oval (P); Farrer (F). 'T', 'V1' and 'V2' ovals are at the corner of Marius & O'Connell Sts. 'P' is in Alice St, off Goonoo Goonoo Rd



http://www.as.edu.au/current_happenings/activities/hcc/hawkesbury.php

Hawkesbury/Hinchinbrook Training Times

| | |
|----------------|--|
| 27 July | First Sunday training session at Dumaresq Dam- 8am to 10am |
| 03 August | Sunday morning, Dumaresq Dam -2hrs |
| 10 August | Sunday morning, Dumaresq Dam -2hrs |
| 17 August | Sunday morning paddle at Malpas Dam - 2 hours |
| 24 August | Sunday morning, Dumaresq Dam -2hrs |
| 29 August | Hawkesbury entries finalized and sent in. Entry fees charged to student accounts. Fundraising commences for sponsorship. |
| 31 August | Sunday evening paddle at Dumaresq Dam - Details to be finalised. |
| 7 Sept | Sunday morning at Dumaresq Dam |
| 12 Sept | Paddlers' Dinner at TAS. Race official will be in attendance and will conduct a briefing. Landcrew confirmed. Raffle books, maps and landcrew information distributed. |
| 14 Sept | Sunday morning at Dumaresq Dam - 2hrs |
| 20 Sept | Old Boys Weekend - OB boats on show, ticket sales |
| 21 Sept | POP - no official practice |
| 28 Sept | No official practice -first weekend of holidays |
| 3 - 11 Oct | Hinchinbrook expedition |
| 12 Oct | No official practice -last weekend of holidays |
| 18-19 Oct | Grafton Training Weekend - 20km (day) paddle and 10km (night) paddle. |
| 25 Oct | RazzamaTAS fete - P&F boats on show, ticket selling |
| 26 Oct | Last training paddle at Malpas Dam |
| 31 Oct - 2 Nov | Hawkesbury Classic Weekend. Leave TAS 1.30pm Friday. Return 8.00pm |
| Sunday. | Friday night at UWS Southee College. |

Game times:

| Team | Time | Opponents | Venue |
|--------|----------|--------------|-------|
| 13Bs | 7:00pm | W. Cowper | V2 |
| 13As | 6:05pm | Farrer | V2 |
| 14Bs | No round | | |
| 14As | No round | | |
| 15Bs | 6:05pm | Farrer | V1 |
| 15As | Bye | | |
| 16Bs | 6:05pm | QuirindiP | |
| 16As | 7:00pm | Carinya P | |
| 3rd XV | 6:05pm | Carinya T | |
| 2nd XV | 7:00pm | Farrer Gold | T |
| 1st XV | 7:55pm | Farrer Green | T |

Wollongbar-Alstonville Rugby (WAR) on 26 & 27 July

A complete Information Sheet is on the TAS website

Teams: 15As, 14As & 14Bs

Venue: Wollongbar Rugby Club

Game times:

| Team | Time | Opponents |
|------|--------|----------------|
| 14Bs | 2:15pm | WAR 13s |
| - | 3:15pm | Mens 1st grade |
| 14As | 5:00pm | WAR 14s |
| 15As | 6:00pm | WAR 15s |

Travel: Edwards 52 seat coach

Depart TAS 7:15am Saturday 26 July. Return to TAS at 4:00pm Sunday 27 July

Cost: \$68 (day boys), \$61 (boarders)

Meals: Lunch at McDonalds (Grafton) on both days. Dinner Saturday 26 at Wollongbar Rugby Club. Breakfast Sunday 27 with billets.

Accommodation: Boys billeted in pairs with WAR parents

Athletics

The NCSA carnival day is at Coffs Harbour on Tuesday 19 August. Primary and Secondary teams have been selected. You can view the proposed teams and information about the trip on the TAS website ('under' Sport then Athletics). http://www.as.edu.au/current_happenings/activities/sport/athletics.php

Students are to be congratulated on being selected in the team and are encouraged to compete, however it is not compulsory to compete. If you do not wish to compete, particularly where you are in one event only, you need to inform Mr Hodgson or Mrs Brunsdon by Wednesday 30 July so that a suitable replacement can be organised.

Congratulations

Well done to Harry Kirk, Year 9, whose success with polo-crosse has seen him receive a 2AD Junior Sportsman award.

Congratulations to Nick Hoynes, Year 12, who played hockey for the NSW Combined Independent Schools in a Tri-Series Challenge that also featured the NSW Combined High Schools team. Nick played strongly and was named in the NSW All Schools Open Boys Hockey Merit Team.

Middle School

From the Head of Middle School

Welcome back to all returning boys and a special welcome to our new student Brian Morley in Year 6. This term will be participating in a number of activities beyond the classroom including NAIDOC Week celebrations, Spotlight on Languages Event and a social at PLC. This term we had planned a whole Middle School performance of the musical Aladdin. Unfortunately, for reasons beyond our control, the musical has had to be cancelled.

We encourage parents to attend a special Middle School In-House concert that will feature the boys' musical talents and to view examples of our students' artwork, which will be displayed during special events. At our final assembly of the year we will be showcasing a number of our student's musical and dramatic talents and artwork. This will be a demanding term academically and we encourage parents to contact their son's homeroom teacher if any concerns arise. The winter sports will finish at the end of this term and we remind parents to ensure the boys are at their scheduled training sessions and notify their coaches if they are unable to attend weekend matches. We look forward to seeing our students enjoy a rewarding term of work and activities.

NAIDOC Celebrations

Next week our school will be celebrating Australian indigenous culture. Activities will include, music and dance for Year 6, art and authentic mediums for Year 7 and Bush Tucker and the connection to country for Year 8. Year 8 will also be visiting the Aboriginal Keeping Centre. The week will also see Minimbah staff and students along with many guests from our Armidale Aboriginal Community visiting TAS to share in these activities and also to tell us about their stories and their connection to our country. Our thanks to Bevan Walker Yr 8 and Levi McKenzie-Kirkbright in Year 9 for their efforts in promoting this event.

Yr 8 Parent Teacher Interviews

Thank you to all parents who have sent in their interview request forms. A letter confirming times will be sent out early next week. There are still a number of parents who have not yet sent their forms in. If you would like to have an interview with your son's teachers please send the form in no later than Monday 28 July 2008.

Absentees

If your son is unable to attend school we ask that parents and guardians notify the school by 9.00am. To ensure absentees are recorded on time please phone either Reception on 6776 5800 or Middle School on 6776 5819. Please note that it is a legal requirement that a note explaining the absence is given to your son's homeroom teacher upon his return to school.

Amazing Brain Enrichment Day

On Saturday 21 June, nine TAS students from Year 4 to Year 7 attended the Amazing Brain Enrichment Day at UNE. We learnt considerable valuable information about the brain and how to look after it. Did you know it is better for your sleep to play computer games before you do your homework?

We also got to dissect a sheep's brain, which was heaps of fun. We had to find ten different parts of the brain, some of which we had to take out or cut open. We also made clay models of the way memories end up in your long term memory.

We all really enjoyed the whole day and I would recommend doing something like this to anyone.

By John Dennis Year 6

Student Contributions

Under the Rubble and Dust

A thunderous roar and stampede of bystanders echoed through the shaking building as hundreds tried to escape. Minutes later, I found my self under the rubble and dust after the shock wave. I tried to get up but my arm was anchored down by a huge steel pole attached to great chunks of concrete clustered together. It was dark, I could see very little, only through the few cracks and gaps between the ridged shattered concrete. I could smell only the stuffy distinct smell of dust, as it hovered above me and swarmed into my nostrils. As I lay there, powerless in the scraps of the fallen building, I could feel the fine, crumbly dirt, run between my fingers softly.

I can still hear to this day, the unmistakable eerie ring of tens of Fire trucks and Ambulances getting louder and closer to the wreck of the destroyed building.

I could taste the revolting and sickening sample of plastic and dirt, mixed with various bugs and insects that had crawled into my mouth whilst I was pinned down by gigantic metal scraps, scattered across my frozen body. I could hear the calls and shouts from firemen as they searched the building for any survivors. I let out a deep, deafening shout, and that's all I remember.

The next day I woke up in a hospital bed, with the sound of doctors and nurses busy at work in the background, I opened my eyes slowly and blinked a couple of times, clearing my vision in the process and saw that six to ten people were surrounding me holding colourful balloons and other get well soon gifts. Years later my life was back to normal, but the unforgettable life threatening experience will always stay with me.

By Darcy James Year 7H

My Paradise

I'm in complete control.

I twirl my wrist in request for more power. As I feel the response of the rushing wind in my fact become more intense and the blur of rushing bushland become less indistinguishable. I make out the thick free branch that leaps out from nothing. All my senses are altered, my mind is racing, but it's too late. I feel by body rush up against the branch and I am left behind by my escort. I fall to the ground and violently find myself eating dirt and smelling cow dung. My whole body hurts and my mouth tastes like bile. I look up ahead. He's waiting up ahead. I feel like a piece of iron to a magnet. I get up immune to my pain and stagger over. I help him up and swing a leg over the saddle. I power off and tear up the tender dirt. I feel on top of the world. There is no where I would rather be than right here, riding my motorbike.

By Tom Wyatt Year 8B

Junior School

Looking Ahead

Wednesday 23 July

- No assembly today
- Maths Olympiad Day 3
- Art Club commences
- Gardening Club commences

Thursday 24 July

- Dance Club recommences with Miss Colette
- Drama Club commences

Friday 25 July

- National Tree Planting Day (Activities for KB, KT, Yrs 3 & 5)

Monday 28 July

- NAIDOC Week Activities at TAS

Tuesday 29 July

- Student Banking recommences

Wednesday 30 July

- Transition Assembly

Thursday 31 July

- Australian Maths Competition (Years 3 & 5?)
- "Australian Folklore" performance 11.40am

The Term Ahead

We hope everyone had a wonderfully relaxing and enjoyable holiday. Three weeks allows families' precious time together and many took advantage of this longer break to take longer trips away. We look forward to hearing about your holiday travels and the highlights for the children. Attached to this newsletter is a calendar of events in the Junior School for this term. Any alterations to this will be notified to you through this newsletter.

Much planning for our Creative Arts concert comes to fruition in the last week of term with one public performance on Wednesday 24 September, where all the Junior School children will perform. The Creative Arts Evening and Art Show promises to be most entertaining and not to be missed.

Letters also will be sent to parents at the end of this term outlining arrangements for the major class excursions for all children in K-5 that occur in Term 4. These excursions are always a great highlight for the children and staff alike, and preparations are well underway. Kindergarten children will enjoy an overnight camp at the school, Year 1/2 go to Coffs Harbour, Year 3/4 go to Lake Keepit and Year 5 go to Coffs Harbour Outdoor Education Centre.

We hope everyone involved with the Junior School have a most enjoyable and productive term.

Staff News

This week we welcome Mrs Veronica Waters back to School to teach our Year 1 class after her long service leave.

Congratulations to Mrs Grills

Mrs Theresa Grills had a baby boy last Friday – one month early! Congratulations to both Sam and Theresa on the safe arrival of Daniel. Mother and baby are both doing well.

For the time being Mrs Lesley Nies (Junior School Admin Assistant) will be available in the Junior School office between the hours of 8:30am and 1pm each day. If parents wish to pass on messages regarding their children, please keep the above times in mind so we can ensure that all information is passed on accordingly.

Thank you to our Grounds Staff

The TAS grounds staff undertook a mammoth job during our three-week holiday moving all our fixed playground equipment. This marks the beginning of the new playground restructure. We are very grateful to them for their time and precision and the children have certainly enjoyed playing on it today.

Welcome

We warmly welcome Robert Butcher and his parents Rob and Rachel to the Junior School community. We are delighted he has joined Year 5 and wish him a very happy time with us. We appreciate the wonderfully warm welcome Year 5 children have given him today.

Staff Inservice at the end of Term 2

Junior School staff undertook one of two staff inservices on the last day of Term 2. Mr Alex Portell and Mrs Christine Wright learnt all the guidelines necessary for New Scheme teachers to follow for the Institute of Teachers whilst the remaining staff participated in a very practical and informative "Count Me In Too" maths inservice. The CMIT inservice was provided by Elaine Watkins, a maths consultant with the Department of Education. Staff were given many strategies and ideas to teach the numeracy strand of the Maths curriculum and we look forward to implementing these.

Transition 2009 interviews next week

Interviews will be conducted next week for families interested in attending our TAS Transition class in 2009. If you are aware of any families who may be interested, please let them know as soon as possible, so they can be in touch with our Enrolments Office ph. 6776 5823

Crunch and Sip

The Junior School will be encouraging a modified "Crunch and Sip" program with all children in Years 2 to 5 asked to have a water bottle on their desks each day that they can drink from to recharge their brains! Only water will be allowed in the classrooms.

Years T-1 are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school each day, but these will be left in their bags and accessed when needed. These water bottles are best NOT frozen, as when it melts, it can often ruin other things in a child's bag or on their desk.

More details next week about the "Crunch" component.

Happy Birthday Wishes

We wish a very Happy Birthday to the following students who celebrate their birthdays this week: Ziggy Harris, Charlotte Slack-Smith and Harry Sinclair.



Bronze & Silver Awards

We congratulate the following children who received their Bronze Award at the last assembly of Term 2: Fraser Smith, Jock Campbell, Jakob Slack-Smith, William Claridge and Jesse Arnott.

Congratulations also to the following children who received their Silver Award at this assembly: Tahlia Paull, Amelia Newton and Ziggy Harris.

Book Covering

A big thank you to Mrs Helen Dennis for assisting Junior School with the covering of our children's readers. There are still books that need to be covered and any assistance from parents would be greatly appreciated.

Australian Folklore Performance

On Thursday 31 July, Junior School children from K-5 will have the opportunity to enjoy an informative and humorous look at the legends and heroes that make up "Australian Folklore". Using music, story, a vast array of props and audience participation the presenter, Gerard Cafe, brings Australia's folklore to life. The cost per child is \$3.50. This amount will be charged to your school account. Please inform your child's class teacher if you do not wish your child to attend.

Mrs Trennery

Premiers Reading Challenge

We hope you all had an opportunity to do some reading while you were on holidays. Please bring completed reading logs into the Junior School Office when finished. Mrs Forsythe and Mrs Nies are happy to check your progress, so just drop your book in on Wednesdays. Well done everyone and keep up the great work.

Club News

Dance Club starts again week. Dance Club is held on Thursday lunchtimes from 1.10pm to 1.55pm in the Green Room with Ms Colette Brazier. Dance Club is open to all children from Kinder to Year 5. If you wish to join Dance Club please come and get a letter from Mrs Nies for your parents to sign which also outlines the cost.

Drama Club will recommence on Thursday afternoon, 24 July Art Club on Wednesday 23 July. Please see Mrs Nies for a form if your child would like to join either of these clubs.

Gardening Club will also recommence on Wednesday 23 July between 1.10 - 2pm.

Naming Belongings

We remind our parents to ensure that ALL their children's clothing and belongings are clearly labelled. If clothing is second hand please ensure the previous owners name is taken off or made illegible and a new label with your child's name is placed on the item. At the end of term we were amazed at the amount of lost property in the box in the basement, all unnamed, and the amount of money it would cost to replace.

The Wonders of Science

Two shows that may interest you and your family:

1 The University of Sydney's School of Physics will stage an interactive kids science show - The Great Physics Air Show at the University of New England (Biological Science Lecture Building S3) from 4.15 to 5pm on Monday 28 July.

2 A presentation for a public audience on the 2007 Nobel Prize entitled 'Pocket Nanotech' will be held from 6 to 7pm.

Both shows are free. Primary school students will see brains expanding and barrels being crushed, all by air pressure alone, and will find out what happens if you go for a spacewalk without a space suit, or get frozen to minus 200 degrees.

CSIRO's Double Helix Science

This makes science exciting, intriguing and fun. You'll laugh, learn and be inspired with the great gear membership offers:

- a choice of 2 fun-packed bi-monthly youth science magazines, 'Scientrific' or 'The Helix', jammed with hands-on activities, current research, experiments, comics, brain stretching puzzles, reader contributions, competitions and fabulous freebies
- events and holiday programs from nine CSIRO Science Education Centres in all capital cities, Townsville and some regional centres

Science Week 2008

Planet Earth - Planet of Change

Children are invited to submit a model, project or experiment related to "Planet Earth - Planet of Change" for our annual Science Week competition. This competition is not compulsory and entries should be completed in the children's own time.

Children's Science Projects are due in Week 5, Term 3, 9.00am on Monday 18 August 2008 In the Junior School Homework Centre. Please make sure your child's name is on the entry!

Entries are to be centered around the following:

"Planet Earth - Planet of Change"

Transition - Earth and the solar system

Kindergarten - Volcanoes

Year 1 - Earthquakes

Year 2 - Weathering and erosion

Year 3 - Fossils

Year 4 - Food chains and food webs

Year 5 - Global climate

ICAS Competitions

Children in Years 3, 4 and 5 will sit the Maths Competition on Thursday 31 July and the English Competition on Tuesday 12 August. These papers will be given at the beginning of each of these days. Detailed results of your child's performance will be sent home to parents later in the year.

- Science by Email weekly e-mail newsletter, packed with experiments and news
- Discounts at CSIRO Shop www.csiroshop.com and Double Helix Holiday Programs
- Exclusive deals and discounts at participating science centres across Australia

Heaps of fun for students of all ages and helpful for homework and assignments too.

More information or JOIN ONLINE at www.csiro.au/helix or call 02 6276 6643 or see Mrs Nies in the Junior School for an application form.

Junior School Sport

Please be aware that all weekend matches recommence this weekend. Please check the respective websites as there have been changes to draws during our holidays.

For our parents' information, Junior School sports training is NEVER cancelled because of wet or inclement weather. All coaches have lessons planned in the event of wet weather, that are related to their sport so that these sessions are a valuable component of their training program.

Mrs Brunson, Junior School Sports Co-ordinator

Football

TAS Typhoons and Tornadoes – report for 24 June 2008.

The Typhoons had a comprehensive win in the rescheduled local derby against the TAS Tornadoes, which was played instead of training. Illness and absence depleted both teams so it became 9 a side. Josh Beattie generously volunteered to change sides and had his best game of the season! Alexander Chambers and Finley McCarthy both scored 3 goals each, Jacob Faint scored 2 and Will Brissett 1, as a defender! Ben Collins was very unlucky not to score despite some very good play. There was some very impressive team play up front with clever crosses, passing, long range shots and great evasive dribbling. Jacob Hunt and Sinclair Moore put in some very solid play in the midfield, thwarting most of the Tornado's attacks. Henry Perrottet and Sam Thatcher were tough defenders and really committed themselves when the ball came their way. It was good to see so many parents there and thank you to Mr Nash for arranging the fixture and providing the referee (as well as doing it himself for a while as Mr Moore was too hoarse).

Hockey Representatives

Michael Klepzig and Will Brissett were chosen to represent the North West in the Under 11's hockey competition held on the weekend in Tamworth. Well done to both boys, this is a huge achievement.

Hanna Shield

Due to a clash with NCSA Athletics the following swimmers will compete at the Hanna Shield relay competition at the UNE pool on Tuesday 19 August. Mr Pennington will hold some trainings before the event and will give you further information. Congratulations on your selection.

Junior Girls

Freestyle relay – Olivia Fenwicke (9), Georgia Hutton (8), Katie Gordon (9), Madeline Murphy (10)

Medley relay – Madeline – fly, Olivia – breast, Katie – back, Georgia – free

Junior Boys

Freestyle relay – Dougal Stacy (10), Lachlan Alford (8), David Williams (10) and Sam Thatcher (9) are our best free-stylers left – freestyle relay

Medley relay – Dougal– fly, David – breast, Sam– back, Lachlan– free

Freestyle relay – Jay Kennedy, Harry Lloyd, John Dennis, Dan Allen – (team as stated by Mr Hodgson)

Medley relay – John – fly, Jay – back, Harry – breast, Dan – free

PSSA/NCSA Athletics

Notes were handed to athletes at the end of last term letting them know of their selection in the NCSA Athletics. They are also eligible for PSSA Athletics to be held on Friday 8 August at Armidale High School. Both Field and Track events will be held on this day. NCSA Athletics will be held on Tuesday 19 August. Permission notes will be handed out this week. Please return them ASAP so I can finalise the bus arrangements and events.

Mrs Brunson, Junior School Sports Co-ordinator

Looking Ahead

Wednesday 4 June

Year 1 Assembly

Transition to visit Geoff Henzell, Dentist

Thursday 5 June

Normal day in Junior School

Staff to attend "Count Me In Too" maths inservice

Friday 6 June

"Staff only" Day

Monday 9 June

Queen's Birthday Long Weekend

Tuesday 10 June

Dispersed Day Prac Students to visit Years 4 & 5

Wednesday 11 June

Kindergarden B Assembly

Thursday 19 June

Sydney Symphonia at NEGS - K-2 10am,
Yrs 3-5 11.30am

Welcome

We warmly welcome James Hutchison, and his parents Shane and Noelene to the Junior School. We are delighted he has joined our Year 2 class and wish him a very happy time with us.

Happy Birthday Wishes

We wish a very Happy Birthday to the following children who celebrate their birthdays this week: Matthew Wark, Daisy Meehan and Isabelle Perrottet.

Assembly Awards

We wish to congratulate the following children who received awards during last Wednesday's assembly. Bronze Awards were presented to: Cotter Litchfield, Charlie Rutledge, Matthew Wark, Oliver Fletcher, Riley Eichorn, Lucy Ball, Sarah Beattie, Oscar Henzell, Jack Sewell, Cooper Johnson, Duncan Chalmers, Isabelle Perrottet, Hugh Fletcher, Jack Waters, Champ Lee, Samuel Thatcher, Sebastian Gibson, Liam Kennedy, Michael Klepzig, Tim Pears and Dane Townsend.

Individual Eisteddfod Results

Thank you to Jodie Winton and George Torbay

To be a member of the TAS community and to have sat in the audience last week as our Junior School choirs performed, was a proud and memorable moment. Each choir was very well prepared and sang their pieces confidently under the expert guidance of Mrs Jodie Winton and Mr George Torbay. Our thanks are extended to them for the thought, care and guidance they have given to our children's young voices - they are so fortunate to be receiving this level of expertise at their young ages.

Many of our children in the Junior School participate in the Eisteddfod each year. It is a wonderful achievement for these children to perform at this level and we congratulate

all of them. We would like to thank the peripatetic teachers and the Music staff for preparing the children so well for their performances. Please let Mrs Nies know of your achievements in the Eisteddfod so they can be included in the newsletter (Inies@as.edu.au, 6776 5817 or drop in a note).

Congratulations to:

Sam Wright - 3rd- 8 years and under Cello solo, 3rd -with Harry in the 9- 10 year and under duets

Harry Wright - 2nd -10 years and under violin solo-Div 1, 3rd - 11years and under strings romantic, HC -20th century composition AMEB grade 3 and under, 3rd -with Sam Wright in 9-10 year and under duet, 3rd -with Jessica Wright in the 11-12 year duets

Both boys did very well - especially Sam as it was his first eisteddfod. They were lucky enough to be on Prime TV with Maddy Dennis and Izzy Emanuel last Wednesday night.

Junior School staff Inservice

The Junior School staff will be involved in two days of inservice prior to the long weekend. Normal day for students - Thursday 5th June will be the "Count Me In Too" inservice which promotes practical hands-on Maths activity. The presenters from Sydney are working with a number of schools in Armidale and we are delighted to be able to take part in this Department of Education inservice. This will be a normal day in the Junior School. Mrs Theresa Grills will continue to work with Year 1 and casual teachers have been employed to follow the class teachers programme for the remaining classes.

Staff only day - Friday 6 June, Junior School staff will be joining the rest of TAS staff to learn more about the TAS Extension and Enrichment programme and future directions of this program.

MS Readathon

If anyone would like to participate in the MS Readathon for the month of June you may collect a form from Mrs Brunson - they will be in my room for another week.

Book Club

Please note that all orders are due back by Wednesday 11 June. Please ensure all orders are placed in a sealed envelope with the completed order form and money. Please ensure you write your child's name on the top of each order form and the envelope. Orders are to be placed in the red letter box on the floor just inside the Junior School office. For those wishing to pay by credit card please pay online or on the phone BEFORE you hand in the book order. They will give you a receipt number which is what you will write in the credit card box NOT your credit card details. Please see Mrs Nies in the Junior School office if you have trouble with this.

SOFTWARE: Please note that software sold through Book Club by The Learning Company or Brodabund is not compatible with the school laptops that Years 3,4 and 5 currently have. The information with this software says

that it is compatible to MAC OS10 however this is not the case with the school computers. This software is most likely compatible with your home computer if you wish to purchase it.

Eating Safe

A new website called EatingSafe can save stress, time and money. EatingSafe (www.eatingsafe.com.au) allows you to search their website by Allergen and food type – and you can specify this down to quite a detailed level. It gives you a summary of products available, the pack size, and whether they are green (presence is not indicated), amber (presence is possible) or red (presence is indicated) for the allergen(s). You can then look at individual labels and if necessary ask for clarification through a forum. The site staff then contact the manufacturers for their comment and post it as well. It's not only useful for allergies, but also for additives and nutrients. You can search up to four allergens/additives/nutrients at once and choose which products are best, then add them to a shopping list (once you are a member). When you join for free as a member you can also be notified of any product updates that are relevant to your health issue. The database has nearly 14,000 labels listed and is growing all the time. <http://www.eatingsafe.com.au>

This is not an endorsement of this website or its information – simply letting you know it is there.

The National History Challenge 2008

This is a research-based competition for students giving them a chance to be an historian, investigating their community and exploring their own past.

It emphasises and rewards quality research, the use of community resources and effective presentation.

If your child is interested in history, encourage them to visit the website www.historychallenge.com.au for more details. Closing date for entries is 15 August 2008.

Lost Property

To ensure your children's property is returned to them quickly, please ensure their name is clearly marked on the item. If the item is second hand, please ensure you have removed the previous owners name and have the correct name on it.

Plastic Bags

If anyone has spare plastic bags that they do not want, would you kindly drop them into the Junior School Office. They will be put to good use by Sandra Kaynes for delivering Book Club orders!

PSSA Cross Country 2008

A large contingent of 31 athletes headed off to Walcha last Thursday to test their fitness against other local schools in the PSSA Cross Country. I am delighted to report that all the children behaved wonderfully and made my day so much easier – thank you all. We had some outstanding results but special mention must be made of Fred Jeitani who came 11th as an 8 year old in the field of 8 and 9 year olds! You will be wonderful to watch next year Fred when

