

TAS TALKS # 1

Weekly Newsletter of The Armidale School



Term 3, Week 1- Wednesday 29 July, 2009

House on Duty is Croft- ah 6776 5849

Headmaster – Murray Guest



Welcome to the new school term after what has been a full and successful holiday of school activities for many and, I hope, a refreshing time away for all. Once again we had large numbers of students engaged in special activities through the break and I have enjoyed hearing reports from the staff leading them in these first few days of term. The mix of the Forensic Science Camp, study convention for senior students, NIDA workshops, rugby on the Gold Coast and at UNE, competitive and social skiing and shooting in Sydney has a breadth that reflects the nature of this school very well. I know that both individuals and teams have enjoyed significant success in these pursuits and I look forward to seeing them recognised in the coming weeks.

I offer a special welcome to 7 new boarding students who join us in Middle and Senior School this term and I wish each of these boys well as he settles into his new school and home.

Congratulations to Nick Jones and Matt Baker

The success of the NSW Country Schools representatives from TAS continued in the first week of the holidays as Matthew Baker was named in the shadow team and Nick Jones was selected in the NSW Schoolboys 1st XV. I particularly congratulate Nick who represented his state in each of the four matches in the Australian schoolboys' championships. This fine achievement, particularly as a Year 11 student, is worthy of our applause as a school. At the same time it highlights to me the importance of the country schools program as a pathway to representative rugby at the highest level and I again pay tribute to the good number of TAS coaching staff who support this system. It is greatly encouraging to see our students making the most of the opportunities they see around them and carrying themselves with such humility and good character along the way.

Round Square Visit

This week we have the pleasure of the company of the Executive Director of Round Square, Mr Brian Dawson, and his family with us at TAS. Mr Dawson is in the midst of travels from his home base in South Africa to visit the Australian Round Square schools and see more of the school life that defines the Round Square identity in this region.

Mr Dawson's conversations with our students and staff give us the opportunity to shine the spotlight on our commitment to the Round Square IDEALS – internationalism, democracy, environment, adventure, leadership and service – and helps us focus on how we show this commitment in our actions. The encouragement given to our students and staff in this process is invaluable in maintaining the momentum of our Round Square activities and Mr Dawson's support as a friend of the School is greatly appreciated.

New England and North West Training Awards

I was proud to be able to join the two TAS students who won through to the finals of the New England and North West Training Awards at the gala presentation Dinner in Tamworth during the holiday break. Jake Kruidenier and Sam Adams were amongst eight finalists from across the region in the VET in Schools category at this impressive event and the recognition they received is a credit to them and reflects well on the staff that have worked with them through their training.

Staff Changes for Semester 2

I am very pleased to welcome Mr Mark Harrison, who will be known to very many at TAS, as joins us to teach the bulk of Mrs Barnsley's classes and takes responsibility for the Creative Arts for the remainder of the year.

I must also report that during the holidays I received Mr Ian Slater's resignation from his position with the music department. In doing so, Mr Slater has asked me to convey that whilst he has enjoyed his tenure at TAS, he and his family feel it is time to look for new ventures and so he has decided to put his energies into this area. I take this opportunity to thank him for his commitment to TAS music and wish him well in his future endeavours.

Through the remainder of the year, Mr Slater's classes and other music responsibilities will be taken on by several staff and I thank each of them for their support:

- Mr Phil Oxley who has been working with our Junior School choirs this year will take our Year 3 and 4 music classes.
- Mr George Torbay will extend his work with drama to teach Year 7 music as well as assisting with the Year 10 elective music class.

- Mr Lindsay Rowland joins us from UNE to take the Year 8 class in their drumming option. African drumming is Mr Rowland's area of special expertise and I welcome him to TAS.
 - Ms Sarah Christopher who will be remembered by many TAS musicians returns to teach the Year 10 elective class.
 - The Year 11 and 12 combined elective class has been separated to allow Mr Alastair Finco to teach Year 11 whilst the HSC students are guided in their final term by Ms Corinne Arter and Mr Warrick Dunham.
- And finally I welcome Mrs Margi Roberts and her family to the school campus in her new capacity as resident Medical Centre Sister.

Chaplain – Richard Newton

Love is the Greatest 1 Corinthians 13

Michael Jackson – the King of Pop, some, even many, would claim he was the greatest pop musician ever. Why would you make such a claim? Well part of the answer has to be in the volume of records sold. It is estimated that he sold 750 million records, obviously that number is about to climb significantly with his death. However, to be labelled the greatest is a big thing and it must go beyond sales, beyond sheer numbers. I am not sure what the answer is.

Something we can be more certain about is the subject of every second pop song ever written – love. This has to be the greatest pop subject of all time.

Love has always had this elevated status, a long time before Michael Jackson, the apostle Paul claimed “And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.”



This is central to our school lesson, the special part of the Bible that our founding Fathers decided on as the cornerstone in the building of the TAS student. It speaks of gifts that each of us may possess, that are rendered worthless without love. What a mushy, soft bunch they must have been. Hardly the Benny Elias is of their day. Why were they so into love? Sure love footy, love origin, love NSW winning the final game, love the biff at the end, but they sound like the sort of blokes who prefer to watch Harry met Sally, eat ice cream as they lounged around at their boys night in?

Why were they so into this reading? Why is love so great?

Love is the only one of these characteristics that God Himself possesses. Further, without this love we have no basis for our faith or our hope. When God demonstrated His love, he sent Jesus to die for us. Through this act of sacrifice, sin and death are defeated, it is in this we have our faith; it is this, that gives us hope of eternal life. This is not a soft, romantic view of love, but a gutsy, bloody, costly love for the unlovely – hardly the pop-song or boof-head type. Thank God that we have a regular reminder of God's love for us in our school lesson.

Weekly Calendar – Wednesday 29 July to Wednesday 5 August

Wednesday 29 July

GPS Shooting Competition concludes
Year 11 Construction Work Placement

Thursday 30 July

Year 11 Construction Work Placement

Friday 31 July

Year 11 Construction Work Placement
4.00pm LBK Prime Cup
(13s to Opens)

Saturday 1 August

10.30am 16A Rugby vs St Johns College,
Woodlawn at TAS
3.00pm P & F event – Yehudi Menuhin Prodigy &
Phenomenon – Hoskins Centre

Sunday 2 August

9.30am Choral Communion
8.00–10.00am Hawkesbury Training (Dumaresq Dam)

Monday 3 August

Year 11 Metals Work Placement
ICAS English Competition

Tuesday 4 August

Year 11 Metals Work Placement

Wednesday 5 August

8.45–12.20pm Motivational Media
Year 11 Metals Work Placement

Thursday 6 August

Year 11 Metals Work Placement
Transition 2010 Interviews
Australian Maths Competition (JS)

Friday 7 August

Year 11 Metals Work Placement
4.00pm LBK Prime Cup – OPENS SEMI-FINALS
(13s to Opens)

Saturday 8 August

Fullbore Shooting (Wollomombi)

Sunday 9 August

Rugby vs Downlands (at TAS)
6.30pm Chapel Service

Monday 10 August

NAIDOC Week at TAS

Tuesday 11 August

2.00–5.30pm Winter Sports Photos
6.30–8.00pm Fiji Meeting (McConville Centre)

P&F Association - Presidents: Kaye Denning and Margie Roberts



Kaye

Margie

web: <http://www.as.edu.au//community/PandF/php> email: pandf.as.edu.au

Welcome back to the new term and we hope you have enjoyed a very successful holiday. We again look forward to working with you all again this term and thank you for your contributions of time and effort last term.

Do try and make the book launch this Saturday at 3.00pm. Old Boy Philip Bailey will talk about his time as personal assistant to Yehudi Menuhin. This will take place in the Hoskins Centre.

General Notices

Subject Survey for Year 9, 2010

Thank you to parents and students of Year 8 who have returned the subject survey sent with Course Handbooks over the holidays. Information collated from these surveys will be used to determine which subjects are offered next year, so if this has not yet been sent or faxed back from your home, please do so as soon as possible.

Meg Sadler, Academic Secretary: msadler@as.edu.au

Enrol To Vote Week (27 July– 2 August) – this week

Students aged 17 & 18 years are encouraged to complete an Enrol to Vote application. Forms are available from your Tutor or Mrs O'Brien and should be completed and returned to Reception asap.

Lost

Henry McDouall's blazer went missing from a hook in Middle School at the end of term. It is clearly marked with an iron on label saying Tom McDouall and it is in good condition.

Year 7 Astronomy

During the first part of Term 3 TAS Year 7 students will be studying Astronomy.

As part of this unit a night viewing excursion has been organised for Thursday 13 August, 6:30pm at Newholme.

Students will be given a presentation by NPWS and TAS students Brandon Harradine and Jackson Shearer sharing their heritage in Aboriginal Astronomy. This will be followed up by night sky viewing and a nature spot-light walk in the surrounding foothills of Mt Duval.

Boarders will be transported to and from Newholme in a TAS minibus, day students are asked to make their own way out with parents more than welcome to stay and participate in all activities.

Firm footwear and warm clothing will be necessary as well as torches for personal use.

Andrew Horsfield

CHANGES IN THE MEDICAL CENTRE

TAS continues to provide complete medical cover in term time by trained Nursing Sisters but from this term the following arrangements will apply;

Sr Jenny Murray remains the Sister in Charge and will be on duty from Sunday evening to Wednesday evening when Sr Cathy Beevors will take over till Friday evening. The Clinic will be open from 7.00am to 7.00pm each weekday and the Sr on Duty will be resident in the Medical Centre Flat.

Sr Margy Roberts will be resident with her family in the Medical Centre house and will cover the weekend which will include 11 hours of clinic (Saturday 7.30 to 11.30am and 3.00 to 7.00pm and Sunday from 8.30 to 9.30am)

Sr Murray and Sr Beevors will continue to support major Sport and Activity events at the school on weekend.

Grant Harris, Deputy Headmaster

Please join
TAS P&F for a

**Special Literary Afternoon Tea
with Author and TAS Old Boy**

Mr Philip Bailey

**"Yehudi Menuhin, Prodigy and
Phenomenon"...
one of the most famous classical
musicians of the 20th Century**

**Saturday 1st August
3-5pm TAS Hoakins Centre
\$20 Ticket
includes afternoon tea
and presentation**

**Books available
for purchase from the Author**



**Tickets available from TAS Reception
by 30 July ph 6776 5800
www.yehudiana.com**



The Armidale School to host historical Morgan Car centenary photo

The Morgan Car Company celebrates its 100th birthday in 2009, and as part of the worldwide celebrations, the UK based company has asked its members to gather on Sunday 2 August at 10.00am at TAS for a special photo.

Photos of the cars and their owners will be then forwarded to England for display on the Malvern factory Centenary Wall.

The local contingent of Morgan Car enthusiasts have chosen TAS as the background for the historical photo shoot.

"We are grateful to TAS for allowing us to use the school and its grounds for this unique event. The magnificent historical buildings of TAS will make for a wonderful back drop," commented Mr John Turnbull, spokesperson for the local Morgan owners group.

*One of the cars
on display
at TAS*



The Morgan Car Company is a family owned company, which has been passed from generation to generation. It made over 30,000 three wheeler cars between 1909 and 1950. In 1936 four wheeled cars began **production and the basic body has remained. Today, Morgan Cars are** still hand made using traditional skills to the purchaser's own specifications. This results in a one to two year waiting time for delivery.

Following the commemorative photo, a keen group of Year 11 and 12 TAS students who are currently undertaking the school based automotive industry course, will have the opportunity to view the cars and ask questions of the car owners.

"This is an exceptional opportunity for our students to study first hand the amazing craftsmanship and detail for which Morgan Cars are internationally renown," said Jim Pennington, Automotive teacher at TAS.

"Interacting with these vintage car enthusiasts and viewing the Morgans, will provide our students with real inspiration in their education and training in the automotive industry."

**All members of the school and community are welcome
to attend this function.**

Careers – Trevor Thatcher



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

Open Days for 2009

Australian Catholic University

Canberra campus
North Sydney campus Open Night
Strathfield campus

29 August
9 September
12 September

Australian Maritime College

Launceston campus 16 August
Campus tours can be arranged by appointment.
For further information call 1300 361 928.

Australian National University 29 August

Charles Sturt University Every day

For campus tours/appointments and course information call 1800 334 733.

Griffith University

Gold Coast 9 August

La Trobe University

Albury–Wodonga campus 23 August

Mildura campus Information session
27 July – 14 August

Macquarie University

12 September

Southern Cross University

For personalised campus tours and special events call 1800 111 890

University of Canberra 29 August

University of New England 4 September

University of New South Wales

Open Day 5 September

Australian Defence Force Academy, Canberra 29 August

University of Newcastle

Newcastle campus (Callaghan) 29 August

Central Coast campus (Ourimbah) 22 August

Port Macquarie campus Information Night 3 September

University of Technology, Sydney

UTS Information Day, Broadway campus 29 August

UTS Information Evening, Kuring–gai campus 9 September

For information on school visit days, contact individual institutions.

Sporting News – Sportsmaster: Dick Hodgson



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

Rugby

LBK–Prime Cup – Friday 31 July in Tamworth

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

Teams: 2nd XV, 3rd XV, 16As, 16Bs, 15As, 15Bs, 14As, 14Bs, 13As, 13Bs

Travel: All teams depart from the front of TAS at 4:00pm. All teams return at 11:00pm except for the 13As who return at 9:45pm.

Cost: \$28 (day boys), \$26 (boarders) approx

Venues: Tamworth "Magpies" oval (T); Viaduct Park (V1 & V2); Pirates (P); Wests No 2 Oval (W). 'T', 'V1' & 'V2' ovals are at the corner of Marius & O'Connell Sts. 'P' and 'W' are in Kent St, off Goonoo Goonoo Rd.

Game times:

Team	Time	Opponents	Venue
13Bs	BYE		
13As	6:10pm	Farrer	W
14Bs	6:10pm	Oxley	V2
14As	6:10pm	McCarthy	V2
15Bs	6:10pm	McCarthy	V1
15As	7:05pm	Oxley	V1
16Bs	6:10pm	Farrer 1	P
16As	7:05pm	Farrer 2	P
3rd XV*	7:05pm	Farrer 4th XV	T
2nd XV	6:10pm	Oxley	T
1st XV	No game (Forfeit by Carinya)		

* not part of the LBK–Prime Cup competition

16As game on Saturday 1 August
Opponents: St Johns' College, Woodlawn
Venue: TAS Backfield
Time: 10:30am

Athletics

The NCSA carnival day is at Coffs Harbour on Tuesday 25 August. Primary and Secondary teams have been selected. You can view the proposed teams and information about the trip on the TAS website at:

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 Brunson by Wednesday 5 August so that a suitable replacement can be organised.

Winter Photos

These will be taken on Tuesday 11 August (2:40pm to 5:40pm) and Wednesday 12 August (8:35am to 5:05pm).

A copy of the schedules for each day, plus 'Dress for Photos' is on the TAS website on the 'Sport Home Page' at

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

Dress for Students

Cadets: Anzac guard: Polyesters with hat and 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

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

Junior School & Middle School Year photos: Full School uniform

Coonabarabran Horse Expo Team: Wear the uniform you wore at the Expo, ie Navy TAS jumper, white shirt, tie

GPS Athletics Team: 'A' athletics singlet, TAS track suit pants, joggers

Cattle Showing Team: TAS Cattle showing uniform

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

Yr 12 Abbott: Full School uniform

Overseas Students photo: Full School uniform

Basketball: Basketball singlet, navy shorts, white socks, joggers

AFL: TAS AFL shirt, navy shorts, football boots

Waterpolo: TAS sports polo top, navy shorts, joggers

NOTE: Appropriate footwear must be worn with all photos.

TAS SKI TEAM

This year again the TAS Ski Team excelled in their racing with a 2nd in Alpine and a 3rd in Skiercross in the Northern NSW Interschools Championships.

The races were held in Perisher on the 17th and 18th July under blue skies and perfect snow conditions.

Our team of JONATHON WHEELER, TOM TURNBULL, WILL CHAPMAN and ANGUS MCCULLAGH raced really well with outstanding individual results for JONATHON WHEELER 6TH in both Alpine and Skiercross and TOM TURNBULL 8TH in Alpine.

We came 2ND to Kings in Alpine and our combined time for the team was 155.03 seconds – a whole 2.88 seconds faster than the 3RD placed Oxley College – a lot in ski racing!

The team has now been invited through to the State Championships in Alpine and Skiercross. They will be held in Perisher on the 29th and 30th August. We wish our team well in what will be some very competitive racing.

Any boy in the Team who wishes to download a Participation Certificate in the Northern NSW Championships please go to <http://www.interschools.org.au> It is under Quick Links on the Northern NSW Championships page.

The Armidale School Rifle Club – Shooting News

TAS shooters perform well in 'All-Schools' Competition

On Saturday 25th July, TAS Rifle Club competed at the All – Schools Competition in Sydney. 14 five man teams from 6 schools competed for the coveted Fiona Reynolds trophy. The competition was shot over 3 ranges, 300m, 500m, & 600m at ANZAC Rifle Range Malabar in sunny and relatively calm conditions. The newly introduced ICFRA targets were used, with small diameter aiming marks and bulls eyes, resulting in tougher shooting conditions and reduced scores for the match.

TAS entered 3 teams, with the TAS Red team coming a commendable second place behind the Sydney Boys High Brown. Best of the TAS shooters were Hamish Turnbull from Ebor with 146–9 (possible 150), Mitch Maguire from Dungowan with 142 and Jock Barnett from Delungra with 140.

On 28th and 29th July, 16 shooters from TAS will compete in the annual GPS schools shooting premierships at Hornsby Rifle Range against Kings, Shore, Sydney High, Sydney Grammar and Scots.

Trevor Thatcher, MIC Shooting



Left to right: Sam Adams, Jock Barnett, AJ Murray, Hamish Turnbull, Mitch Maguire



Newsletter 3

We have 95 paddlers on the books at present with the potential to raise \$20 000 for bone marrow transplant research.

- Training is on each Sunday between 8.00am and 10.00am at Dumaresq Dam or by arrangement with PDH.
- Training starts this Sunday, August 2
- Buoyancy vests and aluminium paddles and decks are supplied Bring water and sunscreen and thermal gear. Canoe boots are a good idea.
- The initial boat allocation and entry details are on the website along with other important information go to http://www.as.edu.au/current_happenings/activities/hcc/hawkesbury.php
- There is a meeting this Wednesday at 1.30 pm to hand out some information and at least one member of each team needs to be there
- We are loading boats for Sunday training after school on Thursday and one member of each team needs to be there.
- You should book into a weights session for the next 10 weeks. There are sessions before and after school – see Mr Hodgson

Peter Hall, MIC Hawkesbury Canoe Classic

Middle School – Head of Middle School: Dennis Dempster



Welcome back to all returning boys and a special welcome to our new students Edward Inchbold Year 8, Pieter Erasmus Year 6, Nicholas Bennet Year 6, Harry Mitchell Year 6, Nattanan Meesamlit Year 6 and Felix Gifford Year 6. We are also very pleased to welcome back Tom Henderson who will be joining Ms Boydell's Year 8 homeroom. This term we will be participating in a number of activities beyond the classroom including NAIDOC Week celebrations and a social at PLC. 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

During week 3 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.

Year 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 Friday.

Year 8 Parent Information Night

We also look forward to a large turn out from Year 8 parents on 17 September for the Year 8 Parent Information Evening. This evening is an information night for the parents of this year's Year 8 students to help you help your sons make decisions on their elective choices for Year 9 and learn more about the Senior School programme. The intention is to explain how choices at this point may affect subject choices further along in their schooling, and how the subject "lines" work.

Review of 2009 Forensic Camp

The moment I entered the foyer I was swept into an atmosphere where the positive buzz you get when people are excited, friendly and happy to be there was emanating from all. I was greeted with the cheery hello from the camp Controllers and from this moment on the camp just got better. We were given our thoroughly well thought out, well planned and intriguing scenarios which we investigated over the next three days. It was not just the lab work that got our blood pumping but lots of recreational activities like swimming, theatre sports and outdoor games made for a good time. Numerous mugs of hot chocolate and good food sustained our momentum as we neared the truth of our crimes. The Controllers were friendly, helpful and interesting and kept us on the tasks. The Camp was a fantastic experience and I would recommend it to all of next year's Year 8 as it is truly a character building and fun experience!

By Alex Wright

Tournament of Minds

Once again TAS has entered two teams in the Tournament of Minds (TOM) Northern NSW competition. This week the NSW TOM administrators will announce the Challenges and we will have to quickly decide who will be in our team and of course which of the four challenges we will spend the next six weeks solving. TOM club will take place each Wednesday in MS 1-2. Please see Ms Boydell if you would like to register. Please see <http://www.tom.edu.au/> for more information.

Catherine Boydell

Ask Your Son

Year 7 B – Ask your son who Jack London is. Help him find a map of the Yukon and locate Whitehorse. Help him work out what 'mushing' means.

Year 8 B – Ask your son what an astrolabe and a caravel are. Why are they significant?

Catherine Boydell

Spelling Bee

Congratulations to all the very brave contestants from Years 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and of course Mr Derrin and Mr Nash, who took part in our annual Spelling Bee on the last day of Term 2. Congratulations to the following students who were awarded the Year level prizes – Year 3 Sam Jeyakumar, Year 4 Ziggy Harris, Year 5 Jacob Hunt, Year 6 Cal Hunter, Year 7 John Dennis, Year 8 Alexander Wojno and staff member super speller Mr Derrin. Alexander Wojno again this year was the 'last man standing' and so was awarded the 2009 Championship. Well done Alex! Stay tuned as this term we will have a Mental Maths Challenge.



Spelling Bee Champion
Alex Wojno



Year 3 winner Sam Jeyakumar

Junior School – Head of Junior School: Lou Forsythe



Looking Ahead

Thursday 30 July

Thursday 30 July

Friday 31 July

Tuesday 4 August

Wednesday 5 August

Dance Club recommences

Drama Club recommences

National Tree Planting Day

ICAS English Competition for Yrs 3,4 and 5

Transition Assembly in the Hoskins Centre

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.

There are lots of unhealthy bugs around the Armidale community at the moment so we are encouraging the children to adopt good hygiene habits to help them ward off any impending illness. If your child is showing any symptoms of colds, flu or other contagious ailments, the School community would appreciate them being kept at home where they can receive all the tender loving care that they will require, and reduce the chances of passing it on to others.

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.

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

Happy Birthday Wishes

We wish a very Happy Birthday to the following children who celebrate their birthdays this week: Harry Sinclair, Aiden Rogers-Ellis, and Jason Brennan.

Awards

Congratulations to the following children who received their Bronze Award at the last assembly in Term 2: Dougall Stacy and Olivia Fenwicke.

Congratulations to the following children who received their Silver Award at the last assembly in Term 2: Cooper Johnson, Isabella Kennedy, Hudson Morris, Finley McCarthy, William Brissett, Sam Berry, Tom Wright, Sebastian Scott, Henry Perrottet, Sean Niemeyer, Daisy Meehan and Liam Matherson.

Staff Changes

A warm welcome to their new roles is extended to both Mrs Hilary Harvey and Mr Alex Portell. Mrs Harvey is the Extension and Enrichment teacher in the Junior School and is the MAC (Multi Aged Class) teacher. Mr Alex Portell will return to being the full time teacher of Year 3.

We also welcome Mr Dean Bellamy who is doing his ten week internship, the final prac before becoming a qualified teacher, on our Year 4 class under the expert guidance of Mrs Christine Wright.

ICAS English Competition and Australian Maths Competition

On Wednesday 4 August Years 3, 4 and 5 will sit the ICAS English Competition and on 6 August they will sit the Australian Maths Competition. They will start promptly as soon as the school day begins. If you have any questions about these competitions please make sure you find time to speak with your child's classroom teacher.

Following are some tips that you and your children may find beneficial:

Hints and Tips for Participating in ICAS

Before the test:

Ensure that you are well rested the night before – do something relaxing!

During the test:

Try to relax and enjoy yourself; too much tension may prevent you from thinking clearly.

Do not look at the time too often – that reduces your time doing the actual test.

For multiple choice questions:

Make sure you colour in the bubble next to the right question number.

Read each question carefully and choose the best answer from the options given.

If a question is taking a very long time, go on to the next question and go back to the one you missed at the end of the time but be sure to mark the page or circle the question number so you remember to go back to it.

If you are not sure of the answer, cross out the options you know are wrong and then decide between what is left.

If you are doing the English paper, read the whole passage before you start answering the questions.

After the test:

At the end of the test time, check that you haven't left out any questions.

If you have done the Writing test, take care to read through your writing again after you have finished and edit your work for errors in expression, spelling and punctuation.

Remember, it's not the end of the world if you feel you didn't do well this time.

Information taken from the ICAS website.

Premier's Adventure Challenge

Following in the footsteps of the very successful Premier's Reading Challenge, The Premier's Adventure Challenge has been announced to encourage children and families to frequent the vast number of cultural venues and creative arts activities available to them in NSW. Parents need to register their children for this challenge to receive the benefits of reduced entry fees and free public transport on weekends, public holidays and school holidays. The passport is valid from 13 July 2009 to 27 January 2010. Passport holders collect a sticker or a stamp on each visit. Once three stamps or stickers have been collected, parents or guardians complete and return the tear-off form and they will send them an official Premier's Adventurer Certificate to acknowledge their child's achievement. If public transport is used to visit a museum or on Sundays, families can get unlimited all-day travel on City Rail trains, buses and ferries for just \$2.50 per person under our special Family Funday Sunday program.

The Challenge involves each primary school student collecting their free Kids' Adventure Passport from any participating museum or gallery in NSW.

A great range of prizes will be awarded to those families who finish the Challenge quickly. Further details can be found at www.arts.nsw.gov.au

Write for Andy Griffiths and you could win!!

Dymocks is running an exclusive Kids Short Story Competition to celebrate the release of Andy Griffiths' new book Just Macbeth. For all those budding young Australian authors out there, here is your opportunity... The winner will be chosen by Andy Griffiths and illustrated by Terry Denton!! Send in your entries (no longer than 200 words) to booklover@dymocks.com.au with the subject line "Dymocks Andy Griffiths/Terry Denton Short Story Competition."

Plus the Top 10 Entries will each win a signed pack of 7 Andy Griffiths 'Just' books. Competition ends 31st August 2009

Club News

Dance Club starts again this 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 McPhie for your parents to sign which also outlines the cost.

Drama Club starts again this week. Drama Club is held on Thursday's from 3.45pm to 4.45pm in the Hoskins Centre. The cost is \$5 per class.

Pottery

After school Pottery class with Mr Rick Hatch. Ages 5–11 yrs. Thursday afternoons 4pm–5pm. Runs for 6 weeks. Beginning Monday 10 August. Cost: \$135.00 includes all materials and firing. Contact Rick Hatch on 67725371 to enrol.

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.

Book Club

Please ensure all orders are placed in a sealed envelope with the completed order form together with a cheque. NO CASH. 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.

Lost

Tahlia Paull lost her jumper a few weeks before the end of Term 2. It had her name clearly in the jumper and they have searched everywhere to no avail.

Junior School Sport – Kirsty Brunson

New England Under 11's Hockey Representative side

Members of TAS competed in a competition at Tamworth over the holidays playing for New England Under 11's rep side and we are thrilled that Tahlia Paull – Yr 5 – won a fantastic award. Tahlia has attached a brief description of the competition and her award. A huge congratulations on her achievements with her hockey.

The competition at Tamworth was very tough because there were some very good teams from Sydney, Newcastle, Scone, Grafton and Tamworth. Each game was 20 minutes. We had 6 games on Saturday and 2 games on Sunday, playing the same teams twice.

The prize I won was for "Best and Fairest" in the New England team of U11's. The prize was a hockey ball signed by Michael York and A J Jenner who plays for the U21's Australian team.

By Tahlia Paull

TAS Titans

Netball resumes on Saturday with the TAS Titans playing the Thorny Devils at 1:20pm on Court 12.

Anne Trener