



**TAS**  
THE ARMIDALE  
SCHOOL

EXPLORE  
EXPERIENCE  
EXCEL

# TAS TALKS

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ARMIDALE SCHOOL

Wednesday 25 October, 2017 Term 4 Week 3

## HEADMASTER, MURRAY GUEST

### Exams

As our HSC candidates continue to roll through the second week of their final exams, all students from Years 6 to 10 begin their end of year exams today. Whilst we are still a good way from the end of the school year, the exams that will continue through to the end of next week are an important milestone in the school year and they will be seen as the academic crescendo by many. I know that most have been preparing well for these exams and all will have revision programs and exam formats to assist with the final stages of this. Whilst results will be significant to all and I wish every student all the success they are capable of, what is most important is that the exams are seen as part of the longer learning journey. Building the skill of revision for exams takes time and that is why we start that process as early as Year 6. Similarly, recognising the importance of setting goals and establishing the mindset that makes achieving them possible is something that is learned. These are the things we really seek to achieve in the examination process and the effort that goes into them from teachers and students alike reflects their importance.



### Biking and Triathlon

Whilst untimely rain interrupted the early stages of the summer sporting season for many last weekend, it did not hold our mountain bikers and triathletes back as their Summer really got underway. As Jim Pennington's coverage of the weekend attests, these young athletes are amongst our fittest, strongest and most determined and their efforts are to be admired. Their respective seasons are now well underway and I wish them well for the events and challenges ahead.

## Postie Bike Challenge

A different kind of challenge was taken up by our relatively new school counsellor, Alix Gouge, over the holiday break and she has written her account of it in TAS Talks this week. Alix took on the 'postie bike challenge', riding three and half thousand kilometres on one of those low powered little motor bikes designed to putter along between post boxes. All this was in the cause of Child Cancer Support, the charity that has supported the Holland family so well whilst Lucy has been receiving treatment in Brisbane. I hope that many will want to recognise Alix's outstanding efforts and the role model she has presented for our community by joining in donating to the charity. Alix has provided the link in her article and I recommend it to you.

## Hawkesbury Classic

This coming weekend 32 TAS students, along with six girls from PLC and NEGS and a good number of parents, staff and friends of the School, will tackle the iconic challenge of the 111km overnight Hawkesbury Canoe Classic. This daunting endurance event has become something of a rite of passage for many students moving through Senior School over the past 38 years and I am delighted that so many have taken it on again this year. None of those adventurous souls will know yet whether they will make the distance and that is an important part of the appeal of the race. All will certainly have to dig deep if they are to succeed and I wish them well as they do. I also offer special thanks to Tim Wheaton and his team for their efforts in maintaining this wonderful tradition and making this memorable opportunity available to our students.

### Murray Guest



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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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## Week 3

HSC Exams continue until 7 November

Wednesday 25 October	Year 6-10 Exams
Thursday 26 October	Twilight Concert (6pm)
Friday 27 October	Hawkesbury Canoe Classic (Paddlers depart)
Saturday 28 October	Hawkesbury Canoe Classic
Sunday 29 October	Hawkesbury Canoe Classic

## Week 4

Monday 30 October	Year 6-10 Exams continue
Tuesday 31 October	NCIS Basketball
Friday 3 November	Year 10 Formal
Saturday 4 November	TAS @ Dusk

## Week 5

Monday 6 November	Bivouac
Tuesday 7 November	Bivouac HSC Concludes
Friday 10 November	Remembrance Day Service 2017/18 Rowing Season Launch
Saturday 11 November	Remembrance Day



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## CHAPLAIN, MR RICHARD NEWTON

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### Wisdom's Antithesis FOOLISHNESS Proverbs 1 & 9

If wisdom is "Living in harmony with reality", then, what is foolishness?

A couple of years ago, you might remember me mentioning this story: a young man set out to reproduce Benjamin Franklin's famous experiment with a kite in a thunderstorm. The trouble was he found his string was too short; he extended it with a length of copper wire. Never mind the lightning, the wire hit power lines and our friend was fried on the spot. After which his father said, "he should have known better, he was an electrician." Foolishness, is not living in harmony with reality.

Knowledge of the facts are one thing, to know what to do with that knowledge is quite another.

One who is held up by his peers to be an expert in the field - Joe Piddington defines it as "doing something without thinking first."

Who is a fool?

If I was to think of one person or group of people I naturally think of the 'stars' from 'Jackass', Jonny Knoxville and Co. They seem to be consistently doing foolish type things.

But to my mind – it just looks fun – sure painful and probably not recommended, but for most of us, strangely we think – "I wouldn't mind having a go at that". But is it foolishness? It is better defined as stupidity, maybe recklessness or short sightedness, but not foolishness.

Proverbs defines foolishness a number of ways, and describes many characteristics of the fool. For instance, Proverbs 26:11, "As a dog returns to its vomit, so a fool repeats its folly."

Underpinning all this is the antithesis (or opposite idea) of wisdom, wisdom as defined by Proverbs 9:10:

***"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,  
and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."***



If wisdom begins with fear, knowledge and understanding of the Lord, then the fool is the one who is indifferent about God, disrespectful of Him, who not only ignores Him, but also is ignorant of Him. Maybe this is where our school motto fits in "Without God Nothing." To live life pushing God to the fringes or to ignore Him altogether is considered foolishness.

If you are like me, and you think you have foolish tendencies, then don't be like the dog, don't repeat your folly, turn your back on foolishness and look to God, for this is wisdom.

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## DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL CARE, BARNEY BUNTINE

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### TAS Batyr Wellbeing Group

Throughout the year, and following the visit from Batyr in Term 1, a team of students in Years 10-12 have been delivering important messages to the School community about wellbeing.

The core goals have been:

- To have positive conversations about mental health; and
- To de-stigmatise the concept of mental health.

This complements our approach to positive psychology at TAS, where 'mental health' is as much about good health as bad, just as our personal strengths are as important to recognise our weaknesses, our good times as valuable as our bad.

The Batyr group – whose motto is 'Tying TAS Together' – meets weekly and some of their most notable achievements to date have been: organising TAS wristbands, running activities for RUOokay? Day, arranging two TAS rugby jerseys to be signed by our TAS Wallabies and then framed, and producing videos for School assemblies to help communicate their goals.

One of the framed jerseys is to be auctioned at TAS @ Dusk (4 November) and tickets have been selling well through the winter sporting season. It would be great if parents and families could show further support to this group by buying a ticket on that Saturday. Proceeds are going to One Door Mental Health, an organisation that supports children of parents with mental illness.



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## P&F PRESIDENT, MRS RACHAEL NICOLL

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### TAS@DUSK

It is only just over a week until TAS@Dusk next Saturday 4 November so we need your help to make this a great event!! Please, please, please lend a hand.

The following [link](#) to our [webpage](#) tells you what is going on: including Pig Races, Inflatable Zorb Ball Soccer, Sideshow Alley, and The Emporium; gives you the option of pre-ordering a yummy Christmas Pudding or some sheep manure; and has lots of information on what we need... but some of the things we desperately need help with are:

- Please drop off filled jars for the Tombola Stall as this is always popular and we can never have enough full jars of goodies. Anything from marbles, lollies, colouring pencils, hairclips, soaps and shampoos packaged into a jar would be wonderful. Please leave all jars at main school reception.
- Bake a cake or slice for the cake stall. Cakes can be dropped off at Reception before 4pm Friday 3rd or can be delivered directly to the cake stall on the day.
- Please support your LPs and provide whatever they require in the way of goods or labour for your Year group stalls. If you can't make TAS@Dusk ask your LPs how you can help in other ways.
- Sign up to help... Please sign up for TAS@DUSK 2017! We require Community Service and Parent Helpers for all the fabulous stalls we have. Please sign up for an hour. If everyone signs up for an hour then it is easy for everyone. If anyone has their RSA (Responsible Service of Alcohol) and could help at the Beer and Bubbles stall that would be really wonderful.
- Come along to the TAS@Dusk planning meeting in the Lower Maxwell Room tonight at 7pm (Wednesday 25 October).

### Mrs Rachael Nicoll

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### Great initiative from Ross House

Ross House have organised a silent auction to raise money for TAS @ Dusk. The major auction item is a framed original watercolour by James White called 'Seachange' (currently on display in TAS Reception). If you would like to make a bid, please follow the link, register your details and place your bid. - [www.32auctions.com/RossHouse2017](http://www.32auctions.com/RossHouse2017). Bidding closes on 4 November.



"The painting donated by former staff member James White is a response to family holidays at the beach. Coming from inland Boggabri beach holidays meant sun, sand and fish. The artwork is a watercolour with collage."

# TAS @ Dusk

Saturday 4 November

3-8pm

All Welcome!



*PIG RACES*

*TOMBOLA*



*EMPORIUM*



*WINE TASTING*

*ZORB SOCCER*



*AMAZING PLANTS*

*SIDESHOW ALLEY*



**TAS**  
PARENTS  
& FRIENDS

[www.as.edu.au](http://www.as.edu.au)

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## DIRECTOR OF STUDIES, SEONIA WARK

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### Tutoring

A reminder that tutoring continues this week as usual but there are changes from next week.

Week 4: 30/10 and 31/10 - no tutoring for Bio, Chem or Years 9/10 Maths/Science

Week 5: No tutoring

Week 6: 13/11 and 14/11 no tutoring for Bio, Chem or Years 9/10 Maths/Science

Week 7: 20/11 and 27/11 no tutoring for Bio, Chem or Years 9/10 Maths/Science

Week 8 & 9: No tutoring

HSC tutoring continues for Year 11 students in Maths & English - see previous schedule in last weeks TAS Talks.

### Years 6 - 10 Exams

Exams for students in Years 6-10 will commence today, Wednesday 25 October and conclude on Friday 3 November. The exam schedule has been sent to students and parents. A reminder to contact the school if your child is unable to attend an exam.

### NAPLAN Online Trial Test - Minimum Standards

In order to prepare for the HSC minimum standard reading, writing and numeracy tests, NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) is inviting 2017 eligible Year 9 students to participate in trial online tests in reading, writing or numeracy – as required. The trial test period at TAS will be during week 7 (Monday 20 -Reading, Writing and Tuesday 21 November - Numeracy). Parents will be sent further information in the coming days. If you have any questions in regards to this please contact Ms Catherine Boydell - cboydell@as.edu.au





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## ACADEMIC

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### Back to the Skies

After a foggy start, Armidale gave us beautiful flying conditions for the students of the second semester Aviation Elective. Sunday 22 October was the next opportunity for Trial Introductory Flights on the Aero Club monthly proficiency day.

Eight more TAS students took to the skies and took the controls under the tutelage of qualified flight instructors Angus and Tim from Airspeed Aviation. I try to get a snapshot of each student after they land and one thing never changes – the sheer elation evident in their smiles. I'm not sure who had the most fun though, as a number of parents took local flights and came back with smiles just as broad!

The great thing about these opportunities is that they reinforce a lot of the theory we cover in the course. But you don't need to wait for a club day to fly. Simply contact a flying school and ask for a trial flight.

### Mr Alasdair Hey



Riley Stewart proudly leans on the nose of Grob trainer VH-TGV.



William Koraba proudly leans on the nose of Grob trainer VH-TGV.



Keanu Rhoades inspects the fuel with instructor Tim Cullen.



A busy day for Remy Taylor, from triathlon in the morning to flight instruction in the afternoon.

# LEADERSHIP, SERVICE AND ADVENTURE

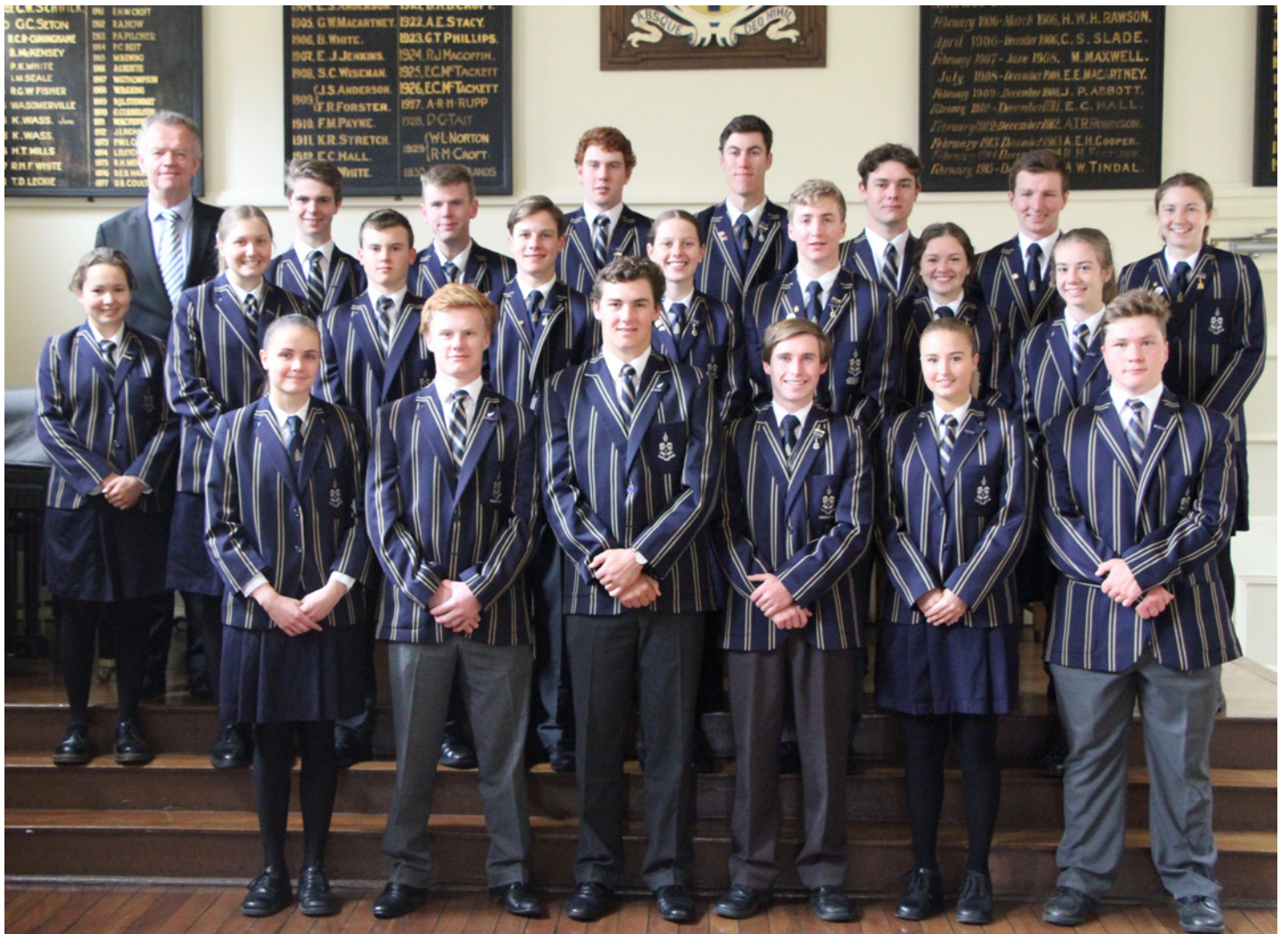
## Student leaders inducted

Student leaders for 2017-18 have been inducted at assemblies this term. At the induction ceremony for prefects and House leaders, the Headmaster said prefectship was not a prize for what has already been done already, but a call is to assist the direction of the school in maintaining its standards in all areas, supporting students and inspiring pride in the school through good example.

Pictured below are the prefects and House leaders for 2017-18.



**Pictured with Headmaster Murray Guest are the TAS Prefects for 2017-18:** (back row, l-r) Annika Rhoades (Inverell), Nicholas Farrar (Armidale), Kitty McPhie (Armidale), Sam Marshall (Burren Junction), George Lane (Inverell), Sam Wright (Armidale), Anthony Russell-Thomas (Newcastle), Nicholas Moar (Armidale), Sambavan Jeyakumar (Armidale), (front) Charlotte George (Grafton), Deputy Senior Prefect Georgie O'Brien (Gunnedah), Senior Prefect Bonnie Bremner (Inverell), Senior Prefect Ben Louis (Hernani), Deputy Senior Prefect Henry Hughes (Glen Innes), Lucy Fenwicke (Armidale), Ellen Coote (Moree). Absent: Nicholas Makeham (Walcha). Absent: Nicholas Makeham (Walcha).



### House captains

Back row: Mr Guest, Thomas Simmonds (Green VC), Nicholas Jackson (Green C), Luke Vagg (Abbott C), George Lane (Croft C), Will Almond (Croft VC), Anthony Roberts-Thomas (VC), Georgie O'Brien (Croft C). Middle row: Dominique Holley (Green C), Emily Peddle (Abbott C), Tully Muller (Abbott VC), Henry Hughes (Broughton C), Kitty McPhie (Broughton C), Sam Wright (Broughton VC), Ellen Coote (Dangar/Moyes C), Molly McLachlan (Dangar/Moyes VC). Front row: Lucy Fenwicke (Tyrrell C), Dan Lethbridge (Tyrrell VC), Ben Hamparsum (Tyrrell VC), Nicholas Farrar (Green C), Nikki Yates (Ross C), Angus Smith (Ross VC). Absent: Nicholas Makeham (Tyrrell C).

## 2017 Service Trip to Fiji

The Service trip to Fiji was the trip of a lifetime for all of us. We were made very welcome and we became part of the community of St Christopher's. We enjoyed spending time with our buddies and a strong bond was formed during our stay. Every day we would meet with our buddies, help them with their homework and then we would have playtime which usually consisted of rugby, soccer, volleyball and very physical takes on netball.

Each child was unique and had their own backgrounds and struggles. But it didn't show. These children were bright and lively and always happy. You wouldn't have thought that they were orphans or that they had been taken away from their homes. It is the unconditional love from the Sisters that raised these children to where they are now, their strong faith in God and their love and care for one another.

Our work started on the Third day and this consisted of painting the church, painting cyclone fences, so they can put them on the windows in the unfortunate event of a cyclone, constructing an 80 metre fence and helping at the Kindergarten at the home. Even though it was tiring and hot we still got the work done. We also had the opportunity to go to a school about 3km away and teach a lesson that we had planned before we went.

Then the last day. The dreaded day when we had to say good-bye to the people we had grown so close to and so fond of. It was very hard and tears were shed. But the thing that made it so hard was the amount of love they invested in you. They knew that we were only there for ten days, but they still put so much energy and love into the short time we had together.

There were so many different and rewarding things that we all took from this trip. I think that not taking what we have for granted, and how lucky we are, is a really important thing to learn early. That's why we strongly recommend the Fiji service trip.

**Hannah Neilson and Ethan Irvine**



# THE ARMIDALE SCHOOL CADET UNIT

## BIVOUAC AND ANNUAL CAMP 2017

### General

1. Bivouac and Annual Camp represent the culmination of the year's training for TAS Cadets, and an important opportunity for adventure and leadership in wilderness areas near Armidale. Bivouac will be conducted on 6 – 7 November 17 at Styx River State Forest and surrounding properties. Annual Camp will be conducted over the period 25 November – 1 December at Nymboida. A & B Company (Yrs 9 & 10), Q Store and Signals Platoon will depart TAS on Saturday 25 November, C Company (Yr 8) on Sunday 26 November.

### Outline of Activities

2. Activities to be conducted include:

	Bivouac	Annual Camp
<b>Activities</b>	Navigation Trekking Field craft Mountain Biking (A Coy) Abseiling (B Coy) River crossing (B & C Coy) Obstacle Course Competition (B Coy)	Trekking Canoeing & Kayaking Ropes course River crossing Radio communication Search & rescue Orienteering Abseiling Mountain Biking (A Coy) Kayak Touring (A Coy) Solo over night camp (B Coy) Duo over night camp (C Coy) Canyoning (B Coy)
<b>Location</b>	Styx River State Forest and adjoining private property	Nymboida via Grafton
<b>Timings: Depart TAS</b>	<b>Monday 6 November</b> Early Breakfast: 0730 hrs All Coy parade at TAS: 0830 hrs	<b>Saturday 25 Nov</b> Advance Party - Q, Radio, volunteers (departs 0800 hrs) A & B Coy departs at 1300hrs <b>Sunday 26 Nov</b> C Coy depart at 0800hrs
<b>Return to TAS</b>	<b>Tuesday 7 Nov</b> Parade: 1515 hrs Dismissal: 1530 hrs	<b>Friday 1 Dec</b> Parade: 1500 hrs Dismissal: 1530 hrs

### Attendance

3. Bivouac and Camp are an essential component of the school's outdoor activity program and curriculum. As such, all students are required to attend and participate.

### Organisation

4. Cadets will work in platoon groups of up to thirty, guided by their cadet leaders and supervised by members of staff and Nymboida Canoe Centre guides.
5. Cadets will camp in pairs in military style hootchies with their platoon, and amenities blocks will facilitate showering and washing at Camp HQ – Nymboida Canoe Centre.
6. Most meals will be prepared and consumed in platoons, with some meals cooked and served centrally at the Canoe Centre with rations drawn from a mixture of fresh food, canned food and ration packs.

### Dress and Equipment

7. Dress: All cadets - Camo uniform. See list below:

	School Issue	Cadet Provided
<b>Bivouac</b>	<p><b>Webbing</b> (see diagram below) web belt x 1 water bottles x 2 bum pack x 1 ammo pouches x 2</p> <p><b>Back Pack</b> Hootchie x 1 Camo Trousers x 1 Camo Shirt x 1 Camo Bush Hat x 1* Camo Jumper x 1 Boots Bush x 1 Ground Sheet*</p>	<p>Sleeping bag* Foam ground mat (if desired)* Knife, fork and spoon set* Kidney Cup* Mug Torch* Thermal shirt* Swimmers* Towel (small) Socks x 2* Raincoat (poncho)* Toiletries (incl. sun cream, repellent) Change of underwear Pegs x 8 (for hootchie)* Rope/Cord x 10m (for hootchie)* Compass* Notebook in plastic bag* Pens* Plastic Bag for dirty/wet clothes</p>
<b>Annual Camp</b>	<p>As above</p> <p>*available at TAS Clothing Store</p>	<p>As above plus: Long sleeve shirt x 1 Jeans trousers x 1 Gym shoes old (Dunlop Volleys or similar for canoeing &amp; canyoning) Underwear x 5 Socks x 3 Shorts x 2 T Shirts x 2 Kit Bag 2 x Plastic Garbage Bags (for waterproofing back pack and dirty laundry) Basic Sewing Kit</p>

- N.B. 1 Pocket knives must not be taken or carried by cadets. Only leaders (LCPL or ranks above) can bring their own small pocket knife.  
2. An additional set of DPCU/greens will be available at camp on a one for one basis.  
3. Proper footwear is mandatory for water activities – Dunlop Volleys or similar should be purchased.

All cadets are responsible for their own equipment. If clothing or equipment is outgrown or worn through normal wear and tear, it can be replaced through the School Q Store by appointment with the Quartermaster Sergeant Simon Ball. Any issued equipment that is damaged through fault of the student must be replaced at his or her own cost through the school clothing shop. The clothing shop also stocks a range of items for purchase at reasonable prices; these items are marked on the list above with an asterisk.

### What not to Take

8. Cadets are **not to bring** the following:
- **Aerosol Cans**
  - **Mobile Phones**
  - **Matches/Lighters (except leaders)**
  - **Other Electronic items (i.e Ipods, laptop, video games, etc)**
  - **Anything valuable (cash is not required).**
  - **Lollies or soft drink**

### Medical

9. First Aid Kits will be carried by each section and trained staff will have access to more sophisticated medical kits. Serious cases of injury or illness will be evacuated to Armidale (bivouac) or Grafton (camp).
10. Sister Murray will be attending Annual Camp again this year and will provide the valuable medical support that she has in past years. Please be sure to notify Sister Murray of any medical problems or medications that are not already known to the School.

## Other

11. **Discipline:** Normal School discipline policy applies, particularly with respect to contraband and behaviour.

12. **Haircut:** Students are to ensure they parade with appropriately kept hair. Boys' hair must be above the collar and ears, and cropped on top and fringe. Girls' hair should be tied back and away from the face. This will significantly aid hygiene in the field. Please note, this is a requirement of the Australian Army Cadets and is a school expectation.

13. **Laundry at Annual Camp:** Laundry tubs are available at Camp. Cadets are expected to wash their own clothing where necessary.

14. **Weather:** November is usually hot and humid. Cadets must be prepared for this and carry an adequate supply of sun cream and insect repellent. Spring thunderstorms are also prevalent and cadets should bring an army style rain coat or can purchase a poncho from the TAS Clothing Store.

## Meals and Water

15. All cadets must carry 2 L of town or purified water and maintain a high daily fluid intake.

16. Food will be supplied via School catering and commercially purchased cadet ration packs. Please note:

*The Australian Defence Force (ADF) is unable to provide a severe food allergy free environment (such as from peanuts) in relation to the consumption of food during cadet activities. Such a risk may be life threatening for people who suffer from a severe food allergy. Parents may consider it is in their child's best interest not to allow participation of their child in the proposed activity. In the event that the child is allowed to attend a catered cadet activity, the parents may choose to provide, at their own expense, sufficient food to cover the duration of the activity.*

## Conclusion

17. This document is designed to give parents and students early warning, in order to provide time for planning and preparation for both Bivouac and Annual Camp. Further details will be issued to cadets during briefings prior to each event, and any enquiries should be directed to CO Cadets, Lieutenant Angus Murray or the Quartermaster, Sergeant Simon Ball.

**Angus Murray**  
Lieutenant (AAC)  
Commanding Officer

24<sup>th</sup> October 2017

# Bivouac for Year 7 Rangers

Year 7 will be heading out to Jeogla Station for their next Activities day (6 and 7 November). We will be meeting at the front of Middle School at 8.45am on the Monday and will return by 3.30pm on the Tuesday.

Students are asked to pack the following:

- Sleeping bag (and small/inflatable pillow if they wish)
- A set of clothes that can get wet (including a pair of shoes)
- A small towel
- A plastic bag for wet items
- Civvies (to wear on the Monday evening – pants are to be long to avoid insect bites)
- Jumper / hoody to put over civvies (students can sleep in civvies)
- Plastic bowl
- Cup / mug (suitable for hot chocolate)
- Spoon
- Torch (preferably a head torch)
- Notebook and pen
- Raincoat (if you think is necessary)
- Roll on insect repellent (no aerosol)
- 2 full water bottles

- Plastic bag for any rubbish
- Any necessary toiletries (strictly no aerosol)
- Any snacks you may wish to pack (all meals will be provided for)

Students are expected to wear their usual Rangers uniform (jeans, green shirt, green hat, belt and joggers or walking boots).

All students will get this information in activities briefing in Week 4.

**Ms Rachel Harrison**  
**OIC Rangers**

## TASCU EQUIPMENT PRICE LIST

\*ISSUED ONCE - LOST ITEMS THEN BOUGHT AT STUDENTS EXPENSE  
FROM CLOTHING SHOP UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED\*

MUST BE RETURNED & SIGNED OFF BY THE QM  
WHEN LEAVING SCHOOL OR  
STUDENT ACCOUNTS WILL BE CHARGED!

 <p>DPCU Shirt &amp; Badges = \$52 - \$72 (rank) *Can swap damaged / outgrown*</p>	 <p>DPCU Hoochie = \$92 *Can swap if damaged*</p>	 <p>DPCU Broad brim Hat = \$15 *Can swap if outgrown*</p>	 <p>DPCU Field Pack - example 1 = \$250 *Can swap if damaged*</p>
 <p>DPCU Pants = \$40 *Can swap damaged / outgrown*</p>	 <p>DPCU Jumper = \$70 *Can swap damaged / outgrown*</p>	 <p>Green Water bottle x2 = \$20 ea *Can swap if damaged*</p>	 <p>DPCU Bucket Hat = \$20 *Can swap if outgrown*</p>
 <p>DPCU Boots = \$130 *Can swap damaged / outgrown*</p>	 <p>DPCU Webbing = \$255 *Can swap if damaged* **Lost parts, to be purchased from clothing Shop**</p>	 <p>Kidney Cup = \$20 *Can swap if damaged*</p>	 <p>Hexi Stove - example 1 = \$13 *Can swap if damaged*</p>
<p><b>CEREMONIAL - REPLACEMENT/BUYING COST</b></p>			
 <p>Slouch Hat w Embellishments = \$240</p>	 <p>Ceremonial Sword = \$450 - \$1500</p>	 <p>Black DPCU dress belt w embellishments = \$65</p>	 <p>Sam Browne &amp; Frog = \$420</p>
 <p>Mess Jacket w embellishments &amp; Cummerbund = \$260</p>	 <p>Sergeants Sash = \$100</p>	 <p>Poly Shirt &amp; Rank Badge = \$55</p>	 <p>Poly dress tie = \$20</p>
<p><b>ONCE OFF ONLY ISSUE</b></p>			
 <p>Army Socks = \$12</p>	 <p>Tent Pegs x6 = \$7.20</p>	 <p>DPCU Hoochie Cord Approx 5m = \$1.50</p>	





## ROUND SQUARE

Expressions of interest are being sought from any student (aged 13 or 14 in 2018) who would like to join a Round Square Conference in Beijing, China in April 2018, hosted by Keystone Academy. The conference will run from 31 March - 4 April, 2018

Join experts and industry leaders shaping innovation and effecting change on the most pressing environmental issues facing the Australia-Asia region.

The goal is to foster learning, inspiration and wonder while provoking conversation in the key topic areas of sustainability, wildlife conservation, marine health and renewable energy sources.

Following the conference, the group will be participating in a five day post conference tour of Xi'an (Shaanxi Province). Tour highlights include visits to the Terracotta Warriors and the Great Wall of China amongst others. The post conference tour will run from 4 April to 8 April inclusive.

For more information, please contact Ms Hannah Lo (hlo@as.edu.au) or Mrs Anna Gayner (agayner@as.edu.au) or complete an application form at the link below.

<http://www.as.edu.au/content/uploads/2013/09/Application-Round-Square-Conferences.pdf>

Expressions of interest will close on Friday 10 November.



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## DIRECTOR OF CO-CURRICULAR, WILL CALDWELL

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### Was it a good session?

Sunday morning was such an idyllic setting on Malpas Dam. The water was glass and the hills almost iridescent after the soaking rain. We could not have asked for better conditions for the final preparations for the Hawkesbury Canoe Classic. It was a good session.

Only 24 hours earlier the rain was relentless, the wind cutting and the hill tops barely visible through the mist. Not the ideal conditions for novice rowers. Despite the conditions, they persevered and progressed. It was a good session.

There are many measures of a good session:

I felt exhausted at the end

I had fun

I achieved my objective

I didn't get injured

I learnt something new

I got to play with someone different...

It is common for people to have varied opinions on what constitutes a good session. What's more, individuals will adjust their own criteria depending on how they feel that day and the nature of the activity.

How do teams function to ensure that it is a good session for all? It is the responsibility of team members to understand each other's needs; to respect difference, to compromise and to develop a common view. Even though we have different criteria, one measure should be common to all.....I am a better person after than I was before.

### 41st Hawkesbury Canoe Classic

The motivation will vary for the many paddlers and land crew embarking on the 111km paddle this Saturday. For all of them, their resilience will be tested. The fact that they are willing to attempt this epic challenge is a reflection of their character. I wish all involved a memorable experience and a 'good' paddle.



### 2018 Rugby Draw

Please note the following fixture dates for 2018 Rugby season.

#### Trial Games:

5 May	TAS v Kinross (Coonabarabran)
12 May	TAS v Cranbrook
19 May	TAS v Grammar
26 May	St Greg's v TAS

#### GPS Fixtures:

2 June	TAS v Scots
16 June	Riverview v TAS
23 June	TAS v High
28 July	Joeys v TAS
4 August	Grammar v TAS
11 August	TAS v Kings
18 August	TAS v Shore

As per 2017 season, we are looking to schedule games against Downlands, Scots PGC and TACAPS post GPS season.

## CO-CURRICULAR CAPTAINS

Athletics:	Captains:	Nicholas Makeham
Basketball:	Captain:	Lochlan Owen
Cricket:	Captain:	Nicholas Farrar
	Vice-Captain:	Henry Smith
Debating and Public Speaking:	Captain:	Owen Chandler
	Vice Captains:	Nicholas Bohlsen & Ashini Ekanayake
Equestrian:	Captain:	Tim Finlayson
Football:	Captain:	TBC End of Term 1 2018
Hockey:	Captain:	TBC End of Term 1 2018
Kayaking:	Captain:	Nicholas Bohlsen
Mountain Biking:	Captains:	Angus Apps & Harry Graham
Music:	Captain:	Sam Wright & Dominique Holley
	Vice-Captains:	Nicholas Bohlsen & Kira Dooner
Netball:	Captain:	TBC End of Term 1 2018
Theatre:	Captains:	George Lane & Ellen Coote
	Vice Captains:	Tom Bailey & Kira Dooner
Rowing:	Captain:	Henry Hughes
Rugby:	Captain:	TBC End of Term 1 2018
Shooting:	Captain:	Luke Vagg
	Vice-Captains:	Sam Marshall & Henry Smith
Swimming:	Captain:	Lucy Fenwicke
Tennis:	Captain:	Max von Gavel-Cleasby
Triathlon:	Captain:	No Captain 2018



Back row: Nicholas Farrar, Kira Dooner, Nicholas Bohlsen, Nicholas Makeham, Sam Wright, Tim Finlayson, Owen Chander.  
 Second row: Henry Hughes, Thomas Bailey, George Lane, Luke Vagg, Harry Graham, Angus Apps, Henry Smith.  
 Front row: Sam Marshall, Lucy Fenwicke, Dominique Holley, Ellen Coote, Ashini Ekanayake, Max von Gavel-Cleasby.  
 Absent: Lochlan Owen.

## Walcha Mountain Festival Road Ride

Cold, damp, raining and 3 degrees, not the ideal climate for a 56km ride. Nevertheless, 10 TAS students fronted at 6am on Saturday for the annual Walcha Mountain Festival Road Ride. No complaints, all keen to test themselves in trying conditions.

Sam Jones went off with the lead group from the gun, utilising the tailwind that greeted riders for the opening 12km. A solid pack of James O'Brien, Albertus Hattingh, John Moore, Remy Taylor and Clancy Roberts joined a few other riders to share burden within the next pack. Not far behind, Heath Whibley and Bailey Bourke battled it out together, with PJ Woodburn and Hamish Parsons staying strong. Past Kentucky a cross wind combined with rain and a very wet road, made some of the downhill somewhat demanding for all riders. The party really started though, with the climb from Walcha Road Station. As difficult as that is, it was the monstrous headwind that hit the riders at the top of the hill that proved to be the greatest challenge. A 19km battle into wind and rain, yet not a single rider was beaten, as the boys all drove hard along the highway into town.

Gwynne Beynon joined forces with his Dad (OA John) for the 76km. Showing the benefits of a solid winter training block, Gwynne rode strongly throughout the event, to place first in the U/18 for the longer distance and also, to outsprint Dad at the end!

This was a terrific example of fortitude from all riders, tackling the demanding head-on and relishing the results.

### Mr James Pennington

## Armidale Triathlon Round 1

The first Armidale Triathlon of the 2017/18 proved to be a huge success, with record numbers for Round 1. A strong TAS contingent of 32 athletes competed in the short course (200m swim, 10km ride, 2km run) event, for some, this being their first ever triathlon. With the day proving to be spectacular weather wise, fast times were most certainly on the cards.

A blazing swim saw Lucas Cotterell exit the water early and look to set the pace. Sam and Josh Jones powered the bike, but just simply could not keep up with the pace of Sam King. Time lost in the swim just evaporated on the road, as Sam ripped the course apart, setting up a huge margin for the run. As fast as he is, Sam King just could not hold off Sam Jones, as the latter strode away for the win by 30s.

Emma Ward dominated in the women's category, leading from the start and not relinquishing for a moment. Her strength across all three disciplines continues to grow. Katie Allen, in her first ever triathlon, showed the tenacity we have seen from her training over the winter, a great initial race.

We also had a couple of 'Super' teams on show for the day. The Year 7 team of Emily Palfryman, Sophie Osmond and Lettie Kerr were impeccable, and finished just behind the Year 8 team of Lily Etheridge, Hannah Neilson and Keeley O'Connor. Ethan Crosby, Sam Ball and Ben Duarte all raced well, along with Paige and Fletcher Jackson. Gwynne Beynon stepped up to the long course (400/20/4) and raced strongly yet again.

It was pleasing to see Gwynne Beynon, Albertus Hattingh, John Moore, James O'Brien, Clancy Roberts, Remy Taylor and Sam Jones back up for the Triathlon after Saturday's Walcha Ride.

### Mr James Pennington



## Mountain Biking

It was a beautiful day out at the Piney for the first round of TAS' Spring Series Race. Students raced on a short 1.5-2km track which consisted of tight corners and burms, rocky downhill, jumps, single track and fireroad. The aim of these Sunday 'races' is to cater for all students' aspirations on the bike. So well done to those students who enjoy the competition component of mountain biking and really rode hard at this race! But similarly to those of you who aren't too fussed about racing and just enjoy getting out on your bike in our beautiful part of the world, well done to you too (and don't worry about where you came in the results!!). Thank you to staff and parents who helped and supported on the day. Special thanks also to Mrs Kerrie McMaster who took the great photos (below) during the race. Race results have been emailed to students. Next Sunday's race will be held at Kookaburra Crest at the same time.

**Mrs Jo Benham**



## CREATIVE ARTS

### Seussical Musical Working Bee

TAS Junior School staff and students are looking for volunteers who would like to assist with the *Seussical* Musical Working Bee this Saturday 28 October from 1.30pm - 4pm in the Hoskins Centre.

If you can assist with any of the following please contact Mrs Leasa Cleaver [lcleaver@as.edu.au](mailto:lcleaver@as.edu.au)

- Non sewing costume construction
- Prop making
- Painting sets
- Sewing simple costumes
- Face painting
- BBQ

Also a reminder that tickets are now on sale and selling fast! Click on the link below and make sure you don't miss out!  
<https://www.trybooking.com/SLTO>


### Art & Sound Exhibition

On Thursday 9 November Hoskins will be hosting an Art & Sound Exhibition showcasing artworks from Senior and Middle School and original compositions by Year 11 Music 1 students.



Mrs Leasa Cleaver  
Acting Creative Arts Coordinator

You are cordially invited to the



**TAS**  
THE ARMIDALE  
SCHOOL

**ART & SOUND '17  
EXHIBITION**

Exhibiting:

- Year 11 art panel pieces
- Original year 11 music compositions
- Year 8 TASibald portraits
- A selection of artwork from Middle School
- A selection of work from Visual Arts elective programs

Thursday 9 November | 4.30pm Hoskins Centre

A collage of various artworks. It includes two realistic portraits of men, a cylindrical object with a colorful abstract pattern, and a large abstract piece made of many small, rectangular pieces of cardboard or paper in various colors and orientations.

## Vote for The Donald!

Established in 2001, the Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize attracts strong support from artists, collectors and critics and is the first national acquisitive prize for an original, freestanding sculpture of up to 80cm in any dimension.

Over 600 entries from Australian and international artists are received annually and approximately 46 finalists' works are exhibited at the historic Woollahra Council Chambers in Double Bay, Sydney, Australia.

Michael Harrell was lucky enough to be one of those 46 finalists this year and will get to exhibit his work for three weeks in Woollahra, Sydney from Saturday 14 October to 5 November.

'The Donald' is the official name of his sculpture and Michael is now considered a professional Sculptor. His sculpture of the American President is worth around \$3,500. Michael's success would not be possible if it were not for his life long teachers Mrs Suzanne Forsyth Hatch and Mr Rick Hatch.

You can vote for Michael's sculpture by clicking on the link below and selecting his sculpture.

[http://sculptureprize.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/sculptures/year?queries\\_year\\_query=2017](http://sculptureprize.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/sculptures/year?queries_year_query=2017)



## After Dinner

This weekend and next weekend, the Hoskins Centre has the local independent theatre company Veracity Theatre Company staging the hilarious Australian play *After Dinner*. Veracity Theatre Company is run by Hoskins Centre Operations Manager Michael Cornford.

The play itself centres on five lonely and sexually frustrated people looking for a good time on a Friday night out and not finding it. While set in the late 1980's, it's themes of suburban loneliness, yearning to connect, and yes, coitus, remains as poignant and hilarious as ever.

With the vibes of nostalgic Australian classics like *Muriel's Wedding*, *Kath and Kim* and *The Castle*. *After Dinner* is full of characters we recognise and enjoy.

Tickets at:

<http://veracitytheatre.com/>





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## WHAT'S ON AT HOSKINS

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### Seussical Jr.

Horton the Elephant, the Cat in the Hat and all of your favorite Dr Seuss characters spring to life onstage in *Seussical Jr.* a fantastical musical extravaganza from Tony-winners, Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty. Transporting audiences from the Jungle of Nool to the Circus McGurkus, the Cat in the Hat narrates the story of Horton the Elephant, who discovers a speck of dust containing tiny people called the Whos. Horton must protect the Whos from a world of naysayers and dangers, and he must also guard an abandoned egg that's been left in his care by the irresponsible Mayzie La Bird. Although Horton faces ridicule, danger and a trial, the intrepid Gertrude McFuzz never loses faith in him. Ultimately, the powers of friendship, loyalty, family and community are challenged and emerge triumphant!

Thursday 30 November 2017	1:30 PM
Friday 1 December 2017	6:00 PM
Saturday 2 December 2017	6:00 PM
Adults	\$15
Concession	\$10
Contact	hoskins@as.edu.au

Click on the link below for tickets .

<https://www.trybooking.com/SLTO>

### After Dinner By Andrew Bovell Presented by Veracity Theatre Company



From an Australian Master Playwright's early work – a truly hilarious play  
"MONIKA:  
Can you imagine what's underneath those tight, black pants?  
...  
PAULA:  
It's only a bit of fun"

Five consenting adults are getting out of the house for a night, what happens after dinner is anyone's bet. Written and set in the late 1980's, this play remains hilariously relatable to everyone. A social jungle that shapes a culture, and the conversations we still have daily. Andrew Bovell is a multi award winning and much lauded playwright. His previous work includes *Speaking in Tongues*, *Lantana*, *Who's Afraid of the Working Class?*, *When the Rain Stops Falling*, *The Secret River*, and *Things I Know to be True*. He is currently the STC Patrick White fellow and his recent Currency Press paper 'Putting Words in Their Mouths' has just been released. *After Dinner* is a fun night out, and explores being single in the late 20th, and even early 21st century.

Warning:  
Contains crimes of fashion, outrageous hair and adult themes

### Performances

27, 28 October 3, 4 November 2017

TAS Hoskins Centre 7:30pm

Adult \$27

Concession \$22

[BOOK TICKETS HERE](#)

**TAS JUNIOR SCHOOL**  
Production of



# Seussical JR.

Music by  
**STEPHEN FLANNERY**

Lyrics by  
**LYNN AHRENS**

Book by LYNN AHRENS and STEPHEN FLAHERTY  
Based on the works of DR. SEUSS

Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia).  
All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia

Matinee  
30 November 1:30pm  
  
Evening Performance  
1 & 2 December 6:00pm



\$15 Adults \$10 Children

For bookings visit [hoskins.as.edu.au](http://hoskins.as.edu.au)  
or get them from:  
[www.trybooking.com/SLTO](http://www.trybooking.com/SLTO)

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## HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL, MARK HARRISON

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### Exam Week

Well, it's arrival is imminent (for our students, they begin Wednesday morning) and, having visited most Middle School rooms over the past several weeks, I am pleased to report many of our students are as prepared as they can be for this battery of tests over the coming the next two weeks. Certainly, they've completed some practice responses and, in the Year 7 and 8 groups I've read a number of 'solid' essay responses for English. The Year 8 students have been very assiduous here and I've been reading an impressive number from boarders and day students. As well you know by this stage, we have a 'no surprises policy' in relation to formal assessments, including examinations, at TAS. I like this policy very much as it makes the writing of papers as fair as possible for our people. Further, it allows us to see results that are an accurate reflection of sensible preparation and the best possible advice that staff can give to girls and boys as they manage the challenges in store for them over Weeks 3 and 4.

This is the appropriate forum too to thank staff associated with the Middle School, on your behalf, for their efforts in relation to the preparation and distribution of study packages to your children. Some wider school departments, for example, distributed exam preparation booklets before the time they were strictly required to do. In fact, the whole process this semester, culminating in this battery of examinations, has been well managed and has 'run smoothly' and I'm thankful for their efforts.

Again, I urge parents of day students to familiarize themselves with the exam period schedule that has been distributed, to encourage boys and girls to 'do their best' and to contact us should there be issues requiring clarification.

### Uniforms are Us

Further to last week's TAS Talks, there's been an improvement in the wearing of hats and garters – so, thank you for your continuing support of these 'daily management' issues. These young people are just that, young people – and they benefit greatly from the assistance, generally in the form of reminders, that we can give to them about uniform codes. I want to thank you too in anticipation of the ongoing nature of such support. I think the nature of regular support, as opposed to constant nagging, is a good way of thinking about our actions in relation to these people. It is not, as such, a euphemistic expression because these people do listen to us as a collective group, being families and teachers, but they do so best when the messages are consistent and their 'focus' is clear.



## New School Prefects 2017 – 18

Last week the School's new student leaders were inducted into their various offices. Generally, during their first few meetings I am asked to give them some 'pointers' about Assembly speeches and other public speaking commitments. I will be speaking to the group this Wednesday morning. As you may know, the outgoing student leaders invited Middle School Monitors to a number of Prefect Meetings earlier this year to discuss issues that relate to them specifically. I'm intending to ask the new senior leaders to speak to our students again and to come, where appropriate, to Middle School assemblies (Town Meetings) and, during the 2018 winter terms, to arrange as well as supervise some games with Middle School students. This kind of initiative is an 'inclusive' one and it's healthy for our students to interact positively with older members of the School. The goal here is an unashamed one: I want the senior people to be known, practical role models and we all need the younger people to model the behaviours of the School's newly-elected leaders. In their entirety, the new leaders represent a spectrum constitute a spectrum of talent that TAS so readily offers to all.

**Mr Mark Harrison**  
**Head of Middle School**



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## HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL, IAN LLOYD

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### Seussical Jr - Working Bee this Saturday

As advertised, we will be holding a Seussical Jnr Working Bee this Saturday October 28 from 1.30 – 4.00 pm. We will be providing a BBQ from 1.30 pm, followed by costume and prop making, finishing up with a song and dance in The Hoskins Centre as a sneak preview of the show. It is therefore important that we have as many students as possible attending. A letter has been sent home again this week to get numbers for catering and rehearsal planning purposes and this will need to be returned to your classroom teacher as soon as possible please. It is bound to be a lot of fun and I do hope you will be able to join us for a couple of hours.

### Orientation Day Friday November 17

Getting to know what it is like in your new classroom with your new teacher is a very exciting prospect. On Friday, Week 6, our students will experience what it will be like with their new teacher, in their new room for 2018. We will be welcoming many new students on campus, particularly into our younger years and will conclude the session with morning tea under the Junior School covered area before concluding and heading back to normal classes at 11.40am. Morning tea will be from 11.20 for returning parents and we would love to see you if you can come along at that time to join in.

### Landcare - Armidale

Congratulations to the Deforestation Group from our IB PYP Exhibition who, with a number of other students last week, successfully planted hundreds of trees with our Local Landcare group. Having studied the effects of deforestation and deciding to contribute, it was impressive to see them work with Mrs Hardin to raise funds to achieve this outstanding result. This is a fantastic example of taking responsible action as a result of learning and making a difference in our world. Well done to all involved but especially Abbott White, Blair Eichorn Henry Kirton and Will Gilpin who travelled with Mrs Hardin on the day for the tree planting exercise.

There are many events and activities on the horizon and I look forward to seeing you at them. We are in for a busy time (and I am glad that I warned you) with the Junior School Twilight Concert, the Seussical Working Bee, our final class assembly in the Hoskins Centre (which will include our Dance Club demonstration) just to name a few in the next few days.



**TAS JUNIOR SCHOOL**

**SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER**

**TAS HOSKINS CENTRE**



**Seussical**

**WORKING BEE**

**BBQ  
COSTUME & PROP  
MAKING  
SNEAK PEEK OF THE  
SHOW**

[www.as.edu.au](http://www.as.edu.au)



**TAS**  
THE ARMIDALE  
SCHOOL

## Happy Birthday

A big happy birthday to all of the following students celebrating their special day this week: Minnie Chick, George Drain, Campbell Draney, Max Ferris, Toby Ford, Jack McCook, Rupert Newton, Kieren Sutton and Flinders Ward.

## Lost Property

With the weather changing of late, a number of jumpers, hats and other items have been misplaced. Could we please ask that you check your child's belongings to ensure they have brought home the correct uniform? Any items that do not belong to your child can be returned to the Junior School reception office.

## End of 2017 Highlights

The End of Year highlights will be noted each week in TAS Talks as they approach but I take this opportunity to alert you to these special occasions at this very busy time of the term. I hope you will be able to join us and celebrate what has been a wonderful year.

TAS @ Dusk	Saturday 4 November 3.00
Final JS Assembly	Wednesday 29 November
Seussical Jr	Thursday 30 November, Friday 1 & Saturday 2 December
Carols Service	Monday 4 December 2.00
Junior School Speech Day	Wednesday 6 December

**Mr Ian Lloyd**  
**Head of Junior School**

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

The latest brochure from Scholastic (no. 7) has now been distributed to Junior School classrooms. Orders from this catalogue should be placed through the Scholastic LOOP order website by Friday, 27 October, 2017. Please follow the instructions on the order page in the brochure, or follow the prompts on the LOOP website. Should you wish to pay by cheque, please place your cheque and order form in an envelope in the red letter box at the Junior School office. Please note that cash is not accepted. Should you need any assistance, please contact me on [nramazan@as.edu.au](mailto:nramazan@as.edu.au).

Scholastic encourages parents to register for LOOP, their online ordering system, as this gives you the opportunity to earn bonus books with your book club order for the remainder of the school year. Register Register at [www.mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Register.aspx](http://www.mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Register.aspx)

**Mrs Natalie Ramazani**

## Looking Ahead

### Week 3 School Spirit – Organisation

Wednesday 25 October	Assembly Hoskins Centre –Yrs 2 & 3
Thursday 26 October	Twilight Concert – Big School 6.00
Saturday 28 October	Seussical Jr. Working Bee 1.30 – 4.00

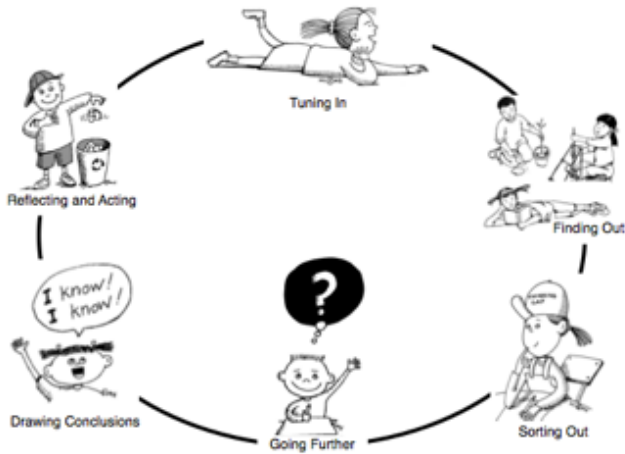
### Week 4 School Spirit – Co-operation

Wednesday 1 November	Assembly Hoskins Centre - Transition, including Dance Club performance (Final Class Assembly for 2017)
Saturday 4 November	TAS@Dusk (School fete)

# PYP PROGRAMME, MRS VERONICA WATERS

## The Role of Action

All Units of Inquiry taught in Junior School classes use Kath Murdoch's Inquiry Cycle. This involves inquiry-based teaching and learning. The cycle provides some structure to the elusive process of inquiry. The cycle aims to develop curiosity. The cycle is designed to guide students through the inquiry process. The inquiry follows the following steps:



An important aspect of the cycle is action. When students take action we aim for them to ask some of the following questions:

1. How can what I have learned help me in my life or help others?
2. How am I going to use what I have learned to make a difference?
3. How will my actions affect others?

As a result of an inquiry into deforestation some students took action...look how much fun they had!

Thank you Mrs Hardin for your organisation in helping these willing students make a difference to our world.

**Mrs Veronica Waters**  
PYP Coordinator





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## JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT, CHRISTINE WRIGHT

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### Junior Basketball

After a cracking start to the season, the TAS Year 4 teams came up against some tough competition this week and certainly had to learn a few new skills whilst on the court. Both teams gave it their all and, despite no victory this week, they still came off the court smiling. Learning how to make quick shots into that hoop will be this week's focus at training.

Accolades must be bestowed on the Year 5 team who played better than I have ever seen them play before. There was a little less fancy footwork and a lot more teamwork and this resulted in an excellent game. The team was up against some strong competition but the players kept their cool and landed some very impressive goals. A special welcome to Latifa who joined the team this week. You played like a pro and it is great to have you on the team.

**Mrs Tania Hardin**



### Gymnastics

It was a wonderful session of gymnastics this week. The children started with a warm up circuit that included a number of interesting stretches. After a busy day at school it was hard for some children to concentrate on these specific movements. Then we had four rotations. These consisted of ribbon twirling, beam locomotion, springboard landing, partner springing and finally swings on the parallel bars.

The final activity for the day was Acro balances. We can't wait for next week when we begin to learn about cartwheels and a number of other exciting activities!!!! So stay tuned.

**Mrs Lana Hawksford**



Mohammed Almokhtar, Ella Crosby, Mila Downes, Mila Nexo, Joshua Rucci and Henry Taylor

## Orienteering

A wonderful day was had last Friday when our Years 3-6 took to the Gara Stock Route on the annual Orienteering event. The weather was kind to us, resulting in perfect conditions for the event. Congratulations must go to our Year 3 students who performed brilliantly in their first orienteering event. In news just released, TAS has reclaimed the PSSA trophy for best overall primary school performance. The PSSA trophy scores achieved by each school on the line and score courses were

School	Line Years 5-6	Score Years 3-4	Score Years 5-6	Overall	Avg team size
TAS Junior		6.47	7.56	7.13	2.21
St Marys		4.09	6.15	5.15	2.60
Martins Gully	5.33	4.24	4.97	4.67	3.05
Armidale City	5.09	3.98	4.70	4.48	2.54
PLC junior		2.18	3.35	2.83	3.59

Well done to all our budding orienteering students!

Congratulations also to Kyuseo Lee and Theo Munsie who were our first Year 3/4 team (finishing first in 4th position) and Lachlan Hunt and Toby Inglis in Year 6 who finished 2nd overall in the Years 5/6 competition. For full individual results please look on the Northern Tablelands Orienteering Club page:

<http://ntoc.asn.au/>



## Summer sports – Rainy weather

With the unpredictable weather, we have been having of late, all Junior School sports will go ahead except for Tennis. With 40 children in this sport, it is impossible to cater for this number of children indoors on wet Monday afternoons. Unfortunately, we had to cancel our session on Monday due to threatening thunderstorms. Parents will be notified by email or SMS if tennis is cancelled.

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## COMMUNITY

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### It is with great relief, and I must say pride, that I write this declaring the Postie Bike Challenge conquered!

I am not quite sure why I wasn't expecting it to be as difficult as it was – perhaps it was naivety on my part, having never undertaken such a challenge before or maybe it was the misconceived innocence associated with the humble Postie Bike – after all, how hard could it be if the ride is on a Postie Bike...? It could also have been that I didn't fully consider the description of the event which is clearly stated on the website. It declares:



You will be tested by the sheer distance to be travelled on some days. At other times you will be challenged by a combination of road surfaces which may include bitumen, sand, gravel, stones, river crossings, bull dust and snow on your way to the destination.

Our routes take you through towns and landscapes that most would avoid on their own due to the vast distances, lack of mechanical support, inhospitable landscape and lack of fuel. So, the Postie Bike Challenge promised to be a challenge and it certainly delivered.

As a newbie to this type of travel and experience, I asked a lot of questions when speaking with the other riders – who ranged in age and experience from 18 years to 70 years. Most had dirt bike experience, many have been riding for 30/40 years. Everyone agreed it was a challenge and there were some days which even they found hard.

There was a great sense of comradery within the group of riders. As the ride progressed and the other riders learned that we were indeed L platers, it was not just a funny joke, I think our sheer determination and persistence won us credibility. This was never more keenly felt than on day three. I shall call it 'The Hungerford Day'. This was not only our longest day in kilometres, it was also longest riding and most difficult road surface. It took us 8 hours to complete a 200km stretch. Riding into camp that night by the light of our bikes to a cheering crowd at the dog gate was THE most amazing feeling of exhilaration I have ever experienced.

Upon riding into Melbourne, we looked like we had been camping for months – smelled like it too – and it was fabulous!

A great sense of accomplishment and something I am so grateful to have experienced. I can unequivocally declare that this challenge is the hardest thing I have done to date. I say 'to date', as it has unleashed the adventurer in me and I am keen for more.

As I mentioned in my previous article, by participating in this event (which is a fundraiser in and of itself) it was my wish raise the awareness of the Childhood Cancer Support Service within the TAS community. Childhood Cancer Support have provided our Michael Holland and family with assistance while Lucy is receiving treatment in Brisbane.

If you would like to donate to Childhood Cancer Support, please follow the link and donate as a The Armidale School Community supporter.

#### How to donate;

Click on the link <https://www.ccs.org.au> In the top right hand corner click on **MAKE A DONATION** Fill out your personal details. In the section which requires you to put in the amount you wish to donate there is a **CONTRIBUTE TO** option on the right. Click on this drop down box and click on 'The Armidale School Community'. Upon making a donation you will receive a tax receipt from

#### Childhood Cancer Support

If you are interested to find out more about the Postie Bike Challenge, you can read about it here <http://www.postiebikechallenge.org>

#### Ms Alix Goudge TAS Counsellor





# CONVERSATIONS with ROWEN MATTHEWS AND JAMES WHITE



**Sunday 29 October, 10.30am at NERAM**

Do paintings speak to you? Why Not?  
Come and find out as Rowen and James 'INTERPRET'  
some of the Packsaddle artworks.

