



TAS
THE ARMIDALE
SCHOOL

EXPLORE
EXPERIENCE
EXCEL

TAS TALKS

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 13 June, 2018 Term 2 Week 7

FROM THE HEADMASTER



Mr Murray Guest

Accolades for Robyn Bradley

I am sure that the news has already travelled through the Armidale music community, but for those who have not yet heard, piano teacher and regular accompanist at TAS Robyn Bradley was awarded an OAM in the Queen's Birthday Honours list over the weekend. This was specifically for her contribution to the Armidale community through her support for many ensembles, musical productions and concerts over decades of dedicated service. TAS, of course, has been a very fortunate recipient of huge support from Robyn and our musical program and stage productions have been better for her work. I am sure that all in the TAS community, whether musically inclined or not, will share in the joy of this accolade for Robyn and join me in offering our congratulations and thanks to her.

A Welcome Break

Last weekend was one of the quietest of the year in terms of school activities and I know that this was welcomed by many. As I have commented before, Term 2 is a hectic and demanding one as the Eisteddfod, exams, winter sporting demands, the Middle School production and other special events all come together over what seems like just a few weeks. So, as teachers settled into the happy task of writing reports, it was a chance for our students to take a deep breath and relax a little. Coming at the end of exams for Years 6 to 10, I know that this was especially good timing for those students. With three weeks of important term time still ahead, I hope that the break has refreshed minds and bodies and that all are in good shape to make the most of the time through to the mid-year break.

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FROM THE HEADMASTER

Extended Day Academic Sessions

Readers of TAS Talks will have seen the timetable for tutoring and academic sessions in the library presented on a regular basis and now is a good time to revisit that opportunity. For the many students, particularly in senior years, who have been taking advantage of this support and facility, the benefits have been considerable and the feedback we have been receiving has been hugely positive. With just a short time until the mid-year holidays, there is every reason for students to be making the most of the opportunity to use their time after school and in the evenings well.

The extended academic day in the library is open to all students until 9:00pm, with literacy and numeracy for Middle School and subject specific English, Maths and Science sessions for Senior School from Monday to Thursday. There will also be one final academic session targeted at HSC students on the final Monday of term. This session will be all about how to use the holiday time well to refresh and reinvigorate whilst also making big gains academically. With Trial HSC exams looming just three weeks into next term, using this time well will make a big difference to results and I believe that attending that session will be an advantage in achieving that.

Murray Guest





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM 2

WEEK 7

Wednesday 13 June

Year 7/8 Brainstorm Productions in Gym

Saturday 16 June

Rugby v Riverview (Sydney)

Sunday 17 June

Eisteddfod Gala Concert

WEEK 8

Monday 18 June

Inter-House Debating (all week)

Thursday 21 June

Year 10/11 Immunisation

Shrek - Middle School Production - 7pm

Friday 22 June

Shrek - 2pm & 7pm

Foundation AGM - 5.30pm

Saturday 23 June

TAS v Sydney High School at TAS

Shrek - 7pm

Private Vehicle Conveyance (PVC) and School Drive Subsidy

Travel diaries for boarders are due at the end of Term 2. Please submit via email travel@as.edu.au or in hard copy to Reception.

If you have not applied, and you believe you could be eligible, please go to this site and check eligibility criteria. <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#/schoolDriveSubsidy>.

Day students are also eligible if their home front gate is more than 1.6 km from the free transport pick-up point. You can claim multiple students from a family at the one address. To find out more please contact TAS Reception or Mrs Meg Sadler on travel@as.edu.au

Mrs Meg Sadler
Student Services

TAS HOCKEY CLUB DAY

We are delighted to invite you to come along and support TAS Hockey through your participation as a supporter, player and or helper on

Sunday 24 June
at
HNE Hockey Fields, Sport UNE

Bring your friends and families to watch your child or family member play hockey on this day, and support Hockey in Armidale.

TAS Games will be playing all day on Turf 1. You don't need to be there all day just come as you can.

Cakes appreciated, BBQ slots available. For more information please contact Mrs Jo Neilson on jneilson@as.edu.au

CITY TO SURF

If you would like to participate in the TAS team for the 2018 City to Surf please contact Mr Jim Pennington on jpenning@as.edu.au to express your interest in the event.

This opportunity is open to parents and staff, as well as students.

Armidale Eisteddfod Results

At the conclusion of the Armidale Eisteddfod, TAS will run a special feature in TAS Talks with results from all TAS students. If you would like your child's results included in this report, please send their name, event name and result to Mrs Rachael Edmonds at redmonds@as.edu.au

P&F CANTEENS AND BBQs FOR EVENTS

If you are thinking of holding a BBQ or canteen for any TAS sporting group, event or co-curricular activity the P&F may be able to help with organising this. For more information please contact any of the P&F Executive.

Our next home rugby game is on Saturday 23 June against Sydney Boys' High School. If you would like to help on the Canteen or BBQ please contact me.

TAS Hockey is also having a 'Club Day' out at the UNE Hockey fields on Sunday 24 June. A BBQ and canteen will be running for the day. All our senior men's and women's teams are playing throughout the day and they would love to have your support. So come out and watch some great hockey, have a snag or a bacon and egg burger and support TAS.

CONTACTING THE P&F

If you want to know what's going on in the P&F join us on Facebook! We regularly post updates on what we are doing, what events are coming up and any other useful information that comes to mind.

We have our own Facebook page – use the keywords TAS Parents and Friends and then 'like' us.

Don't forget each year also has their own Year Group Facebook Page... These are closed groups for parents to catch up on what's happening... Please search for TAS Year 12 and then the year your class will graduate from Year 12. For example, this year's Year 12 Facebook page is TAS Year 12 2018.

Finally, if you have anything you would like to raise with the P&F please either contact your Year Group Liaison Person or any member of the Executive or send me an email on nicollfamily1@gmail.com

BECOME A VOTING MEMBER OF THE P&F

In line with our new Constitution if you wish to be on the Committee or Executive or vote at our meetings you must now become a Voting Member.

To be a Voting Member you just need to fill in a form (use link below) and send it to Jo Neilson jneilson@as.edu.au . [CLICK HERE](#).

Forms can be filled in at any time, including if you pop in to a meeting. This form is also available on the TAS website.

P&F MEETING WEDNESDAY 27 JUNE – ANNUAL FUNDING MEETING

Come and help us spend the money you've helped us raise at the Funding Meeting on Wednesday 27 June at 7pm in the Maxwell Meeting Room.

If you would like to come along and help us determine where the money we have raised in the past year should be allocated we'd love to see you there. Meetings are open to all parents... but to vote you need to be a Voting Member – just fill in that form!

Alternatively, if you wish to put forward a proposal for the use of funds this is your last chance!!! Please send these to Mr Guest by Monday 18 June so all proposals can be evaluated prior to the meeting.

Funding proposals should be costed, justified and seek to help a significant proportion of school. Any proposal should also be for things that are tangible, something that school wouldn't normally pay for and on the 'really nice to have' list. If you have any queries about the funding process please contact me on nicollfamily1@gmail.com

Mrs Rachael Nicoll
P&F President



City to Surf

A challenge to parents – have you got what it takes?

On 12 August TAS students and staff are heading down for this year's City to Surf, a 14km fun run. At last count, we have 217 students from Years 7-12 entered, almost double the number of last year. It forms part of the TAS Triple Crown and expresses so much we believe to be important about looking for challenges.

Led by Mr Pennington and the TAS Batyr Chapter (senior students who guide many wellbeing initiatives in the School), our involvement in the run this year is being devoted to having positive conversations about mental health. The particular focus is to extend this conversation to adults and, as part of this, the TAS student body is issuing a challenge to parents to see if they have it in them to complete the run.

Parents are invited to run as part of the TAS contingent, with our singlet and the Batyr sock. Cattle tags supporting the 'Do it for Dolly' mental health campaign will be worn, and we are hoping as many parents can run/trot/walk the course with us.

Transport and accommodation is up to you but Mr Pennington (jpenning@as.edu.au) is very happy to coordinate registration and kit.

We'd love to have as many of you along as possible and, with a couple of months to go, there can be no excuses about time for training. If anything, you could even start tapering.

Please join us.



Mr Barney Buntine

LEADERSHIP, SERVICE AND ADVENTURE



KOKODA 2018

Are you looking for an adventure of a life time? Walking on an incredibly historic track that diggers before us walked? Through the heartland of Papua New Guinea? Applications for Kokoda 2018 are now open!

Departing Brisbane 30 September, returning 10 October - this 10 day, 130km track is filled with rich history you will never forget. TAS students, parents and their friends are all welcome to join this experience.

Lodge your application at <https://www.ourspirit.com.au/> for dates 30 September - 10 October or email expressions of interest and any questions to Miss Emma Channon on echannon@as.edu.au

Miss Emma Channon



CADETS

Activities Day 4 (20 June)

Activities Day 4 will be held on 20 June, Wednesday of Week 8. All students have attended an activities briefing on Tuesday 12 June and will have been informed about the required equipment.

Parents of students or student leaders in B Company should have received a permission form for school firearms safety training. It is important that these forms are returned to the school either by mail/fax or by email to Mr David Lawrence (MIC Shooting) at dlawrenc@as.edu.au by Friday 15 June in order for your child to participate in these School activities.

The activities will be conducted as follows:

A Company

1 & 2 Platoons – Advanced navigation and fieldcraft activities.

3 Platoon – Kayak touring on Clarence River near Copmanhurst; 3 Platoon will meet for roll call at 3.30pm, depart at 4pm on Tuesday 19 June. An overnight bivouac will be conducted, and students will require overnight gear as specified below.

B Company

4, 5, 6 & 7 Platoons – Firearms safety training (TAS Rifle Club activity), navigation, first aid and bush cooking to be conducted at 'Loch Abba' property.

C Company

8, 9, 10 & 11 Platoons – Navigation, fieldcraft, bush cooking and abseiling to be conducted at 'Newholme' property and Baker's Creek Gorge.

Cadet equipment for kayak tour: 3 Platoon only

Dress during the kayak tour exercise is DPCU uniform with equipment to live in the field. Note that all equipment must be able to be carried in pack only – no webbing will be carried on the kayak trek. Sleeping bag may be carried externally to pack.

Required equipment includes:

Back Pack (issued)

Compass*	Hootchie (issued)
Spray jacket* / raincoat*	5m hootchie cord/rope*
Kidney Cup*	Pegs x 8*
KFS set*	Ground sheet (issued)
Water bottles x 2 (issued)	Sleeping bag* & Mat*
Towel (small)	Olive Green thermal undershirt*
Notepad (in plastic bag)*	Jumper Camo (issued)
Torch + spare batteries*	Wet gear (swimmers, shirt & shorts)
Plastic bag for wet gear	
Sun screen & insect repellent (tube or roll-on only)	
Change of dry clothes, underwear & socks	
Toilet bag (comb, soap, toothbrush + paste)	

*Available for purchase from TAS Clothing Shop

CAPT Angus Murray
Commanding Officer Cadets.



Extended Academic Day Program - Library

A reminder of TAS' Extended Academic Day Program and the opening hours of the Library.

Early Morning Program (7:30am – 8:45am Monday to Friday for Years 6 to 12)

The Library will open from 7.30am for students who are at school for early commitments or just want to work quietly or read before the school day starts.

Afternoon Program (3:30pm – 6pm Mondays to Thursdays for Years 6 to 8)

Literacy and Numeracy sessions are available. Charges apply for Day students at \$15 per afternoon. Please contact Mrs Vickey O'Brien vobrien@as.edu.au if you wish to book your child in for one of these sessions. Day students must be collected by 6pm.

Evening Program (3:30pm – 6pm Mondays to Thursdays for Years 9 to 12)

The library is also open for all students in Years 9 to 12 to work quietly.

Friday Afternoon Program (3:30pm – 5.30pm for Years 6 to 12)

The library will be open for all students in Years 6 to 12 to work quietly until 5.30pm. There is no specific academic support available during this time.

The library will be supervised at all times by Mrs Bremner or Mrs Polson. They are available to give general guidance but not specific tutoring in areas of concern. Day students are able to access the Dining Hall at breakfast or dinner by swiping their Student Card at the door. Costs associated with meals will be added to their TAS account.

Tutor Timetable - Years 9 - 12

Tutoring is available for students in Years 9 -12 in English, Maths, Science, Biology and Physics. See timetable below.

Mrs Seonia Wark



Mrs Seonia Wark

Monday	Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday	
Years 9 - 12	Years 9 - 12		Years 9 - 12		Years 9 - 12	
Library	Library		Library		Library	
7 – 8pm Maths Yr 11/12	7 – 8pm Chemistry Yr 11/12	7 – 8pm English Yr 9/10	7 – 8pm Advanced Maths Yr 11/12	7 – 8pm English Yr 9/10	7 – 8pm Maths Standard Yr 11/12	7 – 8pm Maths/Science Yr 9/10
8 – 9pm Science/Maths Yr 9/10	8 – 9pm Biology Yr 11/12	8 – 9pm English Yr 11/12	8 – 9pm Maths Ext Yr 11/12	8 – 9pm English Yr 11/12	8 – 9pm Maths (all levels) Yr 11/12	8 – 9pm Physics Yr 11/12

ACADEMIC



UN Youth - Evatt and Voice

What is UN Youth? UN Youth Australia is a national youth-led organisation that aims to educate and empower young Australians on global issues.

Registration is now open for any students interested in taking part in either Evatt and/or Voice. 25-26 July is the only opportunity for students in regional northern NSW to take part in this event, and we are extremely excited to once again act as host.

Evatt: The competition is named after the notable Herbert 'Doc' Evatt, who was an Australian High Court Justice and a leading Federal politician who became President of the UN General Assembly and helped draft the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. To find out more about the Evatt event please visit - <https://unyouth.org.au/event/evatt-nsw/>

Voice is a unique public speaking competition for students in Years 7-10, running throughout Term 3. Voice invites you to solve issues that affect your community, nation and the world. From homelessness to climate change we want to hear you pitch your big ideas. To find out more about Voice, please visit - <https://unyouth.org.au/event/voice-nsw/>

To register visit the TAS website. [CLICK HERE](#)

Ms Catherine Boydell
Academic Support Coordinator
Learning Support, Extension & Enrichment



Debating

Congratulations to the six TAS Middle School debating teams who competed in the Tri-Schools (TAS, PLC & NEGS) debates yesterday. It was wonderful to see many first time debaters as well as some of our more experienced hands leading the way. All adjudicators commented on the high standard of skill and praised the effort of all involved. My special thanks to Mr Tim Hughes who has worked tirelessly to build such a positive culture in debating.

Many of those involved will represent their house in the inter-house debating next week. I would encourage all students to support their teams during lunch time on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The Finals will be held in the final assembly for Senior School (Tuesday 26 June) and in period 6 for Middle School (Wednesday 27 June).

Armidale Eisteddfod

After four weeks of memorable experiences and entertaining performances this Sunday 17 June sees the finale of this year's Armidale Eisteddfod. The TAS Big Band, Mila Downes and Jasper O'Neil will feature in the Gala Concert at NECOM at 2pm. All are welcome to attend.

We look forward to publishing the results in next week's TAS Talks. If you haven't done so already, could you please send through your results to redmonds@as.edu.au so we can recognise your efforts and achievement.

DCC on Leave

I regret that I will miss the thrill of the Middle School production - Shrek and the excitement of another Sydney Boys' High Fixture when I take leave from this Friday until the end of term. Please direct any co-curricular matters during my absence to Mrs Rachael Edmonds at redmonds@as.edu.au or contact the staff member coordinating the particular activity. Wishing you all a safe and happy holiday - when it arrives.

Mr Will Caldwell
Director of Co-curricular



Mr Will Caldwell



CO-CURRICULAR REPORTS

Debating revs up a notch

If you noticed, over the Queen's Birthday Long Weekend, that your son or daughter was particularly contrary; wrangled out of your simple requests with a counterpoint or dismantled your opinions with logic and confidence, they may well be one of the growing number of students who are currently very busily engaged in debating at TAS. Term 2 is the busiest time for this most valuable pursuit at the School; here's a snapshot of what is going on at present.

Tri-Schools' Debating

TAS yesterday hosted Round 2 of the Tri-Schools' Shield, a competition for Years 6-8 between TAS, NEGS & PLC. As hosts we fielded two teams in every year group, each taking to the floor against either NEGS or PLC. It was the first time some students had spoken in a debate, and for others the first time in a particular team. TAS students won half of their debates across the year groups, including some who had never debated before. More rewarding than the results though was the enthusiasm shown and the skills evidently being developed by all participants, particularly the ability to engage with an opposition in points of rebuttal. The final round will be hosted by NEGS in Term 4, with three teams from TAS and PLC debating six from NEGS.

National Virtual Debating Competition

The national 'debating by Skype' competition for independent schools continues apace and as our teams have progressed into the fifth round, it is no surprise that the quality of competition has stepped up a level, giving our students new challenges and insights. Just as their win against Melbourne's Scotch College in Round 3 came as a pleasant surprise, so too did Year 9/10's defeat at the hand of Scotch Oakburn College, Launceston, Tasmania in Round 4. TAS now moves to the bottom half of the draw where they have been fast-forwarded to Round 7 (opposition yet to be confirmed) which will be a life-or-death fixture for TAS.

After a bye in Round 3, TAS Year 11 successfully took on Silkwood Independent School and will face Camberwell Girls' Grammar next up, which is guaranteed to be a tough encounter. Meanwhile, despite having the stronger content, a technical error of proposing a model for change in a comparative (rather than policy) style debate cost the Year 12 team their Round 4 fixture against Pittwater House Grammar. TAS now moves into 'second chance' territory in a debate yet to be determined.

Inter-house Debating

And to my final point...inter-house debating will be held between now and the end of term. The draw has been drawn, the topics are topical and the teams (hopefully) already selected by house captains for this year's competitions. The preliminary debates for both Middle and Senior School competitions will be held at lunchtimes next week (except Wednesday). The last Assembly of term will be taken up with the Senior School final while the Middle School final will be held on the last afternoon of term. Best wishes to all with their preparations!

Mr Tim Hughes
Debating coordinator



RUGBY – TAS v St. Ignatius College, Riverview

15-16 June 2018

Travel: by Oxley & Edwards Coaches.

Departure times from TAS front of school **Friday 15 June:**

- BUS 1 (Edwards -57) – 14s & 13s: 1.30pm (Dinner 5.00pm)
- BUS 2 (Oxley-62) – 16s & 15s: 2.00pm (Dinner 5.30pm)
- BUS 3 (Oxley-57) – Opens: 2.30pm (Dinner 6.00pm)

Return to TAS front of school **Saturday 16 June:**

- BUS 1 (Edwards -57) – **16s & 14s:** TAS approx. 7.30pm
- BUS 2 (Oxley 62) – **15s & 13s:** TAS approx. 7.30pm
- BUS 3 (Oxley-57) – Opens: TAS approx. 9.30pm

Travel updates will be published on Team App.

TAS	Riverview	Venue	Time
TAS 1 st XV	3 rd XV	Riverview 1 st Field	1.00pm
TAS 2 nd XV	5 th XV	Riverview 1 st Field	9.00am
TAS 16A	16B	Riverview 4A	10.00am
TAS 16B	St Patricks 16C	Riverview 4A	11.00am
TAS 15A	15B	Riverview 4B	9.00am
TAS 15B	15D	Riverview 4B	11.00am
TAS 14A	14C	Riverview 5 th Field	10.30am
TAS 14B	14E	Riverview 5 th Field	9.30am
TAS 13A	13C	Riverview 6 th Field	11.00pm
TAS 13B	13E	Riverview 6 th Field	9.00am

All games played at Riverview Campus, Tambourine Bay Rd, Lane Cove NSW 2066

Bedding/Accommodation: 13s-16s: Swags for all (Staff included)-Riverview
Opens: Sleeping Bag & Pillow- SBHS Boatshed

*** Boys without swags should collect a mattress from Sandilands room upon departure & take their own sleeping bag & pillow**

Meals: Friday Dinner: Belmore Hotel Scone
Saturday Breakfast: 13s-16s 7.00am-9.00am Riverview
Opens- SBHS Boatshed
Saturday Lunch: BBQ at Riverview (Vouchers)
Saturday Dinner: All teams will have dinner en route home.

Dress: Year 7-8: Full TAS Tracksuit (**to be worn to school**)
Year 9-12: **TAS formals**, to be worn for all travel and on game day.

Cost: All students \$110 charged to school accounts.

CO-CURRICULAR REPORTS

EQUESTRIAN

Polocrosse

TAS Polocrosse Team #1 (Tim Finlayson, Tom Hamilton and Cameron Frear) came Runners Up in the Division 1 - A Grade - losing 3-2 in the final against Calrossy # 1 Team having beaten NEGS, Coffs Harbour/Orara HS and Farrer.

TAS Polocrosse Team #2 (Michael Paull, Hamish Pearce and Gus White) came Runners Up in the Division 1 - B Grade competition, losing the Final to Kinross Wolaroi.

Team 6 bar showjumping:

6th place: Team: Molly Northam, Oliver Ledingham, Jack Davidson, Dom Holley.

Teams of 4 - 6 bar showjumping:

5th place: Team - Megan Schmitt, Jack Davidson, Molly Northam, Oliver Ledingham.

Individuals

Oliver Ledingham (below)

Oliver had a wonderful time and was lucky enough to achieve the following results, which was very impressive on his new horse he has only had for five months

- Reserve Champion 13 yrs Boys Highest Point Score
- Reserve Champion Open 105 cm Showjumping
- Reserve Champion Open Combined Training



Michael Paull

- 1st Bending race
- 1st Flag race
- 1st Team Penning
- 2nd B Division Polocrosse
- 2nd Warrumbungle Way
- 5th Barrel Race
- 6th C Grade ODE
- 6th Team Barrels
- 17yrs Sporting Champion
- 17yrs Reserve Champion Boy



Gus White

- 1st Warrumbungles Way

Oliver Kearney

- 1st Team Penning
- 9th Working Horse Challenge

Jack Davidson

- 6th - pentathlon
- 6th - 2 phase show jumping
- 11th - 95cm one day event

Harry Davidson

- 11th - 60cm One Day Event

Left: Michael Paull



The Team (2018)

Dubbo Sale Report

Last week I reported on the excitement of a young cattle team preparing three TAS Poll Hereford bulls to a degree that saw all three gain ribbons in their respective classes. The reality of the continued drought and tough conditions faced by people on the land hit home at Tuesday's sale where only 4 percent of bulls cataloged sold at auction. Our own team only managed to sell one of the three bulls. Whilst a disappointing sale result there were many positives from the show and sale with the development of an exceptional young cattle team whose efforts and skills were noted time and time again by numerous breeders at the show and sale. We now have two quality young poll hereford bulls, who have been through all vet checks, DNA testing and Breedplan analysis for private sale. If anyone is looking for a good young sire or if you know family or friends whom may be looking for bulls please contact me at the school on mball@as.edu.au

Mr Mike Ball

With just a smidge over a week until Opening Night the cast, crew and production team for Middle School's *Shrek the Musical Jr.* are working overtime. The cast are really coming together and I encourage them all to check the (hopefully final) update to the rehearsal schedule sent out by Mrs Cleaver today - it is vitally important that everyone is at every rehearsal from now on so make sure you are in contact with her if any obstacles emerge. The final Working Bee will be this Saturday 10am - 2pm to finish off the last few costume and props and complete the painting and preparations of the set so if you are looking for one more chance to help us beautify the stage please come along to Hoskins in your best painting gear. And of course, don't forget to buy your tickets! Jump onto the Hoskins Centre website (hoskins.as.edu.au) and click on the event page.

Last week we hosted the Regional NSW Shakespeare Carnival and had over 40 students from a range of schools competing for the honour of representing the New England region in a number of categories. The TAS groups put in a wonderful effort (the confidence and control of our Drama and Music performers was very evident) and in the end Michael Harrell and Will Forsyth of Year 11 were selected for their comic duologue from *Twelfth Night*. They will be headed to the State Carnival at the end of the term and we wish them well as they continue to refine their piece and prepare for what will be a fierce, but wonderfully educative, competition.

The Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow was the final professional production of the term and was met with raucous support. In September we have the Sydney Comedy Festival Roadshow visiting us so if you missed the fun - or you found it to be a highlight of your year - there will be another opportunity to enjoy some tremendous comic talent.

Mr Andrew O'Connell



TAS MIDDLE SCHOOL PRODUCTION
of

 **SHREK**
THE MUSICAL JR.

Based on the DreamWorks Animation Motion Picture
and the Book by William Steig

BROADWAY JUNIOR COLLECTION®

TAS Hoskins Centre

Thursday 21 June 7pm
Friday 22 June 2pm & 7pm
Saturday 23 June 7pm

Tickets

\$15 adults \$10 students

Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/VLTD>

Book and Lyrics by
David Lindsay-Abaire

Music by
Jeanine Tesori

Originally produced on Broadway by DreamWorks Theatricals and Neal Street Productions

Original Production Directed by Jason Moore and Rob Ashford

"I'm a Believer" by Neil Diamond

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TAS THE ARMIDALE
SCHOOL

Continuity and change

At our Middle School staff meeting last Friday, I found myself saying that Middle School students can be simultaneously 'fascinating and frustrating'. Here, I want to elaborate on the fascinating side of your children: one of the most challenging and, ultimately, enjoyable aspects of my job is student interview. I'm not referring to formal interview either; rather, I refer to those talks I have every day with individuals who come to my office or to our staff room to speak to me. The fact that they often come of their own volition is encouraging for me. Also, one of the most affirming parts of this job is the increasing time lately I spend talking to our student leaders: while they are set down as formal meetings, they never are; in fact, they are as relaxed as they are informative and really helpful for me. These boys and girls are invested in Middle School: they want 'the best' for their peers and it is encouraging for me to witness their unfettered approach to pretty much every topic we talk about. These sessions enable me simply to be myself and it is as important for me to let them know me as a person as it is for them to be people who, at this age when critical thinking becomes 'real', want to question me, express views unashamedly and simply be heard. This critical thinking stage is fascinating, isn't it: they are developing the capacity to speak and reason as we do, but what they lack of course is our life experience.

Why am I telling this to you? I am pleased that Middle School people can actually feel comfortable enough to talk to us! These young people need to come to speak me as a person, not just as a teacher. Our job, first and foremost, is to provide an environment that needs, as much as is practicable, to parallel the home situation.

It's an environment that must be characterised by trust; an environment that's relevant and one in which young adolescents feel able to speak freely to us about issues that concern them. We must look out for the needs and interests of young people who, by virtue of age and inexperience, will make mistakes. I think mistakes must be a normal part of life here – the fact that often they are daily occurrences suggest 'normal'. On the proviso that they are confident enough to admit to having done the wrong thing and that they'll do their best 'not to do it again', then I'm confident that what we're trying to do in terms of assistance is succeeding.

As I indicated last week, despite the combined facts of the pace and length of the term and the mid-course exams, we're continuing to make progress. Classes are, as a general rule, reasonably settled and happy places. I enjoy the Middle School: students can be silly and apparently thoughtless at times, but I've not met a bad one yet. In order to find their place in relation to others, especially their peers, they make mistakes regularly, they are going to learn from them (with our help, of course) and in time they are going to become better people as a result.



Mr Mark Harrison

Expectations

We've reached that 'pointy' part of term. After the Queen's Birthday Weekend students remain very busy and this is as it should be, but they're showing signs of term-weariness as well. Please, when speaking to them, would you acknowledge this fact and advise your children that sometimes when we are tired we say and do things to others that people, for whatever reason, take exception to... In fact, if there's nothing pleasant or positive to say, especially, say nothing at all. This is one of those lessons we all learn as we grow up and now's the time for our students to start learning it by having the concept reinforced. I've indicated in Town Meetings and semester reports that one of the surest signs of increasing maturity is the ability to accept others for who they are, regardless of our personal opinions – on the proviso that those others don't interfere with our enjoyment of 'self'. There's so much variety in the Middle School and, within reason, I want to keep it this way.

John Dewey, early twentieth-century American educator and philosopher, makes a strong case for the importance of education not only as a place to gain content knowledge, but also as a place to learn how to live. In his eyes, the purpose of education should not revolve around the acquisition of a pre-determined set of skills, but rather the realization of one's full potential and the ability to use those skills for the greater good. Dewey notes that "to prepare them for future life means to give them command of themselves; it means so to train them that they will have the full and ready use of all their capacities." (in *My Pedagogic Creed*).

In addition to helping students realize their full potential, Dewey goes on to acknowledge that education and schooling are instrumental in creating social change and reform. He notes that "education is a regulation of the process of coming to share in the social consciousness; and that the adjustment of individual activity on the basis of this social consciousness is the only sure method of social reconstruction." (ibid)

As though he was able to predict the future, Dewey advocates for an educational structure that strikes a balance between delivering knowledge while also taking into account the interests and experiences of the student. He notes that "the child and the curriculum are simply two limits which define a single process. Just as two points define a straight line, so the present standpoint of the child and the facts and truths of studies define instruction." (ibid)

I freely admit to having referred to Dewey's work in the past, but its relevance to what we try to do now in this time of change and redefinition justifies its inclusion here. Everything we do should promote the needs and interests of our students and those intrepid others, their teachers.

Mr Mark Harrison
Head of Middle School



FROM THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Lost Property

With Winter upon us I take this opportunity to remind everyone to ensure all items of clothing are clearly labelled. We have already received multiple requests to look out for lost jumpers, jackets and hats. While some have turned up because they are well named, many have turned up with no identification at all so may not make it back to their owners.

School Spirit Award Recipients – Week 6
Congratulations to the following students for receiving School Spirit Awards at last week's assembly:

Marcus Robb, Sam Ford, Mohammed Almkhtar, Austin Pease, Lucas van der Werf, Mila Wright, Lucy Holland, Euan Billingsley, Arabella Hodges and Ethan Downes.

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to Sam Strelitz who is the only Junior School person celebrating this week.

LOOKING AHEAD

TERM 2

WEEK 7

Wed 13 June

Year 3 Assembly – Hoskins Centre
2.45pm
ICAS Spelling Exam

WEEK 8

Wed 20 June

No Assembly
Activities Day No 4

WEEK 9

Wed 27 June

Transition Assembly – Hoskins Centre
2.45pm
Classes Conclude
Staff Day

Thu 28 June

Fri 29 June

TERM 3

WEEK 1

Mon 23 Jul

Tue 24 Jul

Wed 25 Jul

Staff Day – School Closed
Classes Resume
Assembly – Hoskins Centre 2.45pm

WEEK 2

Tue 31 Jul

Wed 1 Aug

ICAS English Exam
Assembly – Hoskins Centre 2.45pm

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Issue no. 4 of the Book Club is now available, and orders should be placed through the Scholastic website by **Friday 15 June, 2018**. If you would like to pay by cheque, please place your cheque and order form in the red letter box at Junior School reception. Please note that cash cannot be accepted.

Scholastic will again offer an incentive to parents to build up their home library and to keep the reading moment rolling among students.

Parents who are registered with the Scholastic online ordering system (LOOP) and spend at least \$10.00 on three issues will then be entitled to receive bonus books.

Mrs Ramazani
TAS Library

Sneak peek into Junior School classrooms after the long weekend

All Junior School classes are thoroughly engaged in their units of inquiry, with only three weeks remaining for questions to be asked and inquiries to be completed. The range of photos clearly shows a wide range of activities and are reflective of the transdisciplinary nature of the PYP.

Mrs Veronica Waters
PYP Cordinator

A closer look at Year 5

In our How The World Works UOI, Year 5 have been working alongside Mr Scott to explore some of the breakthroughs in scientific knowledge that underpin many of today's technologies. In particular, we have been discovering how electricity became a 'disruptive technology' that changed the way scientists innovated. Year 5 have been making their own electric motors using household objects such as magnets, insulated wire, paperclips, a rubber band and a battery. We have also been exploring Coding through the self-paced programme GROK, with the aim to not only have fun but also develop logical thinking and provide the skills in which to programme mini-computers for technological devices such as sensors and individual GPS units. With many of the skills developed this term, students will hopefully be able to apply some of these within next term's Sharing The Planet Exhibition.

Mr Alex Portell



Year 3 student Ava Watts writes an informative text about the history of our School.



Year 3 have been for a history walk around TAS and inquired into the history of some buildings including the TAS Chapel. They reflected on their excursion through visual arts.



Year 1 discussed and inquired into 'community circles' using Visual Arts.



Transition children used their senses to feel play dough. They also used their sense of sight to find the glitter in the play dough.



Year 4 AF have set up an investigation to inquire into substances which cause rust. Lachlan Hunter, Peyton Slade and Braith Westaway make some observations.



Year 4 VW have explored the 3 states of matter, solid, liquid and gas.



Year 5 learning to make motors - the anticipation is electric!



Iles Baker and Nicholas Thomas create mini-monsters using GROK.



R: Kindergarten starting their new unit on multiplication and division. Putting farm animals in their paddocks in equal group

ARMIDALE TENNIS ACADEMY WINTER HOLIDAY TENNIS CAMP

WEEK 1: MON 2 - FRI 6 JULY 2018*
WEEK 2: MON 9 - FRI 13 JULY 2018

**FULL DAY CAMP INCLUDES - LUNCH,
FRUIT, SNACKS, WATER, TREATS & PRIZES**

*WEEK 1 Half Day open to ALL AGES

9.00am - 12pm HALF DAY (kids 5 to 7yrs)
\$50.00 per day OR \$225.00 for the week

9.00am - 3.00pm FULL DAY (kids 8+)
\$65.00 per day OR \$300.00 for the week

For more info & to enrol -

<http://armidaletennisclub.weebly.com/coaching.html>
E: dave@armidaletennisacademy.com.au

Golf Links Road Armidale 2350

