



**TAS**  
THE ARMIDALE  
SCHOOL

EXPLORE  
EXPERIENCE  
EXCEL

# TAS TALKS

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 13 February, 2019 Term 1 Week 3

## FROM THE HEADMASTER



Mr Murray Guest

### Sporting Honours

This week we received news that Lily Neilson was named in the Australian Women's under 18 Indoor Hockey team, following the undefeated form of the NSW team at the national championships last month. The training schedule will be yet another commitment for Lily who is also a member of the NSW under 18's Women's field hockey side but I have no doubt she will rise to the challenge admirably. To be named in a national side is something achieved by so few, and I congratulate Lily on this wonderful recognition.

Nick Barnier has moved further into the ranks of elite tennis after returning from extended time off the court due to injury last year. Nick represented TAS at the GPS selection trials last weekend and was selected in the combined GPS team to play in the Combined Independent School trials.

Competition at this level is very high indeed and to be selected in the First IV from the best players across all GPS schools is a special achievement that we have not seen at TAS since 2010. I also know that this has been achieved through dedicated hard work as much as it has natural talent and that is worthy of our praise. I congratulate Nick and wish him every success as he keeps pushing to the next level.

### Swimming and War Cries

The swimming carnival, with all its trappings, is always a milestone in the TAS calendar. The timing of the Middle and Senior School Carnival is seen by many as an ideal opportunity for boarders to have time with family after the first three weeks of the new school year and it aligns with our Middle School class information sessions, so a good crowd will be guaranteed. Whilst our focus really should be on the athletes in the pool, the war cries competition on Thursday evening is a unique and special spectacle and the bonding in houses created through the experience makes it more than simple entertainment. Like the carnival itself, it is a mass participation event and I know that it is being looked forward to as a feature night of the year.

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# FROM THE HEADMASTER

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For those who have not seen war cries night or our swimming carnival before, I thoroughly recommend doing all you can to join us. It is sure to be memorable.

Junior School will take to the pool this week too, on Thursday, and I wish all our swimmers, from Transition up, well for their races.

## **Rowers and Cadet Leaders**

Whilst many of our boarders are taking the time to relax with family through the coming weekend, our rowers will head to Sydney for their first regatta of the season at the Sydney International Regatta Centre venue. The NSW Rowing Championships will bring quality crews from across the country and will present both challenge and opportunity for development for all our rowers. As was the case at their regattas in Taree and Grafton, this regatta will see our rowers competing away from the eye of the School, but hope they know that they will have the support of all as they do so.

At the same time more than 60 aspiring cadet leaders will tackle the first leg of their leaders courses at corporal, sergeant and CUO level. This is intense and keenly targeted leadership training that is designed prepare cadets for real responsibility in our unit. They will be tested through the course and their willingness to take on this challenge rather than relax at home over the weekend is an admirable reflection of their aspirations for leadership and I commend all of them for it.

***Murray Guest***





# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM 1

## UNIFORM SHOP

### New Opening Hours

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

1.30pm to 5.00pm

Tuesday and Thursday

7.30am to 2.00pm

## TAS Hockey Club AGM notice

Date: Monday 18 February

Location: McConville centre

Time: 5:00pm

*All welcome to attend.*

### WEEK 3

Wednesday 13 February

Thursday 14 February

Friday 15 February

Saturday 16 February

Sunday 17 February

Bravissimo Concert - Port Macquarie

Middle School Information Evening

War Cry Competition and Events

Swimming Carnival

NSW Rowing Championships - Rowers Depart

NSW Rowing Championships

Cadet Leaders Course

### WEEK 4

Monday 18 February

Tuesday 19 February

Wednesday 20 February

Friday 22 February

TAS Scholarship and Open Day

NCIS Hockey

Liaison Parents Lunch

Founders Day

## SKOOLBAG APP FOR IPHONE AND ANDROID USERS

The Skoolbag App is now available for both iPhone and Android phones. The iPhone version also works on iPads. Families are encouraged to download this extremely useful app which allows the School to send reminders to families when the newsletter is available to view online (and you can view it from the App!), upcoming dates and lots of other exciting things. It is a great way to notify families of last minute cancellation of events or arrival times of buses from school excursions etc! To install Skoolbag on your Smartphone:

**Android Users:** Search The Armidale School in the Google Play Store on your phone, PC or Mac and install.

**iPhone Users:** Search The Armidale School in the App Store on your phone, PC or Mac and install.

**IPad Users:** Follow the iPhone User instructions – remember to select iPhone apps!

# Come and Celebrate at one of our 125th Anniversary Events

This year is the School's 125th Anniversary and our approach to the celebrations is less about being ostentatious and more about being understanding of the conditions our families are facing.

In addition to the events listed below, we will have a small range of merchandise on offer that will be promoted in the coming weeks.

We really hope that you will be able to come and join with us at any of these events that mark a historic moment for TAS as we recognise and reflect on our past, celebrate our present and and look forward to an exciting bright future ahead.

Here is the list of events below - Save the dates in your diaries - more details will follow.

22 February	TAS Founders Day	TAS	All students and staff
20 March	Inverell	Regional event	Current parents, alumni and friends of TAS
21 March	Glen Innes	Regional event	As above
27 March	Scone	Regional event	As above
28 March	Tamworth	Regional event	As above
1 April	Moree	Regional event	As above
2 April	Narrabri	Regional event	As above
3 April	Gunnedah	Regional event	As above
25 April	London	London dinner	Old Armidaliens in UK and Europe
2-4 August	TAS Reunion Weekend	TAS	Old Armidaliens and school
	<i>Opening of the Chapel Street Gates - the OAU gift to the School</i>		
9 August	OAU Sydney Branch	Sydney	Alumni
16 August	Canberra	OA event	Alumni
31 August	Brisbane	OA event	Alumni
6 September	Melbourne	OA event	Alumni
10 -12 November	125th Anniversary Adventure Classic		
	125km Hike, Ride, Paddle		Students, staff with some alumni and parents
16 November	P&F's 125 Celebration	Armidale	Parents, students and friends of TAS
4 December	Foundation Dinner		
	<i>TAS Official Opening of our restored Dining Hall</i>		Parents, alumni and friends of the school

**LIAISON PARENTS**

The Liaison Parents for each year group are listed below. These people are the first port of call for queries, social events, Year Group Facebook posts and help the P&F co-ordinate manpower and help for various events throughout the year. Hopefully LPs will say hello to you – otherwise feel free to get in contact with them and introduce yourself.

Transition	Emalene Gemmell Amanda McDowell
Kindergarten	Penny Leary Lynne Secker
Year 1	Kate Stephen Susan Polson
Year 2	Melanie Fillios Suha Tazami
Year 3	Lexi Glover Nicole Shenko
Year 4	Siew Wilkinson Penny Leary
Year 5	Anita Hunter Kath Little
Year 6	Suzu Ross Lisa Miller Jo Crowley
Year 7	Jo Neilson Jo Hopkins
Year 8	Fi Nash Lisa Johnstone
Year 9	Karen Morgan Bernadette Phelps
Year 10	Simone Pearce Ciney Scifleet Karen Kermodé
Year 11	Sarah Nivison Samantha Ferguson Pip Benham
Year 12	Rachael Edmonds

**JUNIOR, MIDDLE AND SENIOR SWIM CARNIVALS THURSDAY & FRIDAY**

During the Swim Carnivals (Junior – Thursday 14 and Senior Friday 15) the P&F operates a Cake Stall. Any donations of baked or bought food will be gratefully received and can be dropped off to the P&F stall near the swimming pool prior to the start of your swimming carnival. Remember this cake stall is mainly for the kids to buy things to munch on (so don't forget some pocket money) and a little bit for the adults.

Suggested baked/food items include cupcakes, biscuits, cake and slices (cut into single serve portions), jelly cups, watermelon if it's hot, savoury goodies, gluten-free and dairy-free items (with labelling and a list of ingredients). However, please remember all items should be nut free. If you bring in a container that you would like returned, please clearly mark it with your name and collect it after the carnival.

**Stall times are:**

**JUNIOR SCHOOL (Thursday 14)**

8am – 9am	Set up	Anyone who wishes to help
9am – 10am		Year 5
10am – 11am		Kindergarten
Morning Tea		10.45 – 11.15am approx
11am – 12pm		Year 4
12pm – 1pm		Year 3
Lunch 12.15 – 1.45 approx		
1pm – 2pm		Year 1
2pm onwards and pack up		Year 2

**MIDDLE AND SENIOR SCHOOL (Friday 15)**

8.30– 9.30am	Set up	Year 10
9.30 – 10.30am		Year 7
10.30 – 11.30am		Year 9
11.30am – 12.30pm		Year 8
12.30 – 1.30pm		Year 11
1.30 – 2.30pm		Year 12
2.30 onwards and pack up		Year 6

**WELCOME BBQ ON WAR CRIES NIGHT – Thursday 14 from 5 – 7pm**

On Thursday night at the Middle/Senior School War Cries Night the P&F will be hosting a BBQ under the Junior School Covered Area from 5-7pm for all families that are not involved in the Middle School Introductory Evening. Sausage sandwiches will be \$2 and soft drinks and water will be available so that you don't starve during War Cries... Come and join us, meet some new people and prepare yourselves for the competition that is TAS War Cries!

**SAVE THE DATES:**  
 Wednesday 13 March – P&F Meeting  
 Friday 29 March – Junior School Athletics Carnival – P&F Cake Stall  
 Saturday 30 March – Middle & Senior School Athletics Carnival – P&F Cake Stall



### “Famous Last Words”

#### Luke 23:32-43

At 9 o'clock, 30 December, 2003, John Gregory Dunne experienced a massive coronary as he sat down to dinner with his wife in their New York apartment. His wife said in her book *The Year Of Magical Thinking*, “This is my attempt to make sense of the period that followed”.

You see, we attach such great meaning to the dying words of people, in fact they have their own category – “famous last words”. They are set apart and made more significant than words that may have been offered in the rest of life. Perhaps we hope to find a clue to what seems to be the hidden truths of life and death as a person crosses from one to the other.

Of course this isn't always the case, sometimes the last words aren't all that profound: “Die, the patient exclaimed, that's the last thing I'll do.”

Oscar Wilde on his deathbed:  
“Either this wallpaper goes, or I do!”

James Rodges, murderer, on his final request before the firing squad, “Why yes -- a bulletproof vest.”

What about one of the thieves hung next to Jesus at that most famous of deaths? He turns to Jesus and requests that he be remembered by Jesus. Is this a vein request, such as a bulletproof vest? Is it similar in that its just the cry of the desperate and perhaps any request is worth a go?

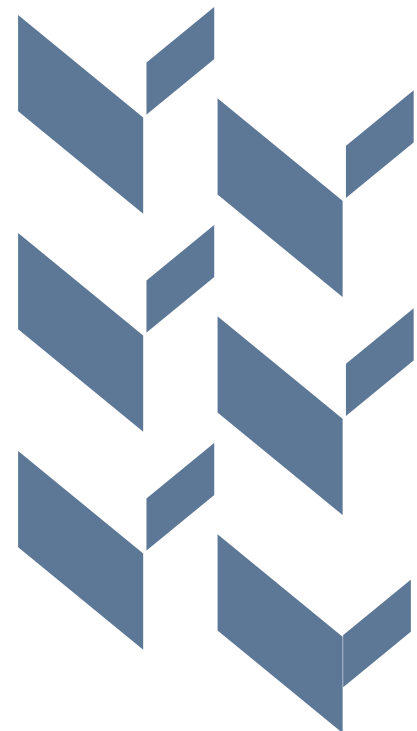
As we read the accounts of Jesus' life and his words, he seems to have had an ability to see through to people's thoughts and motives beyond what was obvious. So perhaps Jesus reply will take us to the heart of the criminal's request. Jesus says, “today you will be with me in paradise.”

Jesus takes the criminal seriously. This man's final words, his dying request rests on the mercy of Jesus. A man clearly, and to his own admission unworthy, receives the assurance from the eternal life giver himself, the assurance of paradise.

This man's dying words reveal that it is never too late to seek the forgiveness Jesus offers.

Perhaps “famous last words will teach us something of life and death.”

#### **Mr Richard Newton**



**PLEASE NOTE:** The Library will close on Thursday 14 February at 5pm due to swimming events and War Cries being held at the TAS Pool.

## **EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM - LIBRARY**

TAS will once again operate the schools Extended Day Program for those students who wish to use the Library at the start and/or end of the school day to complete homework, assessments or extra study and revision. The Library is supervised at all times during the extended opening hours.

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

Students in Years 6 to 10 who are attending various commitments before school or who arrive at school early are now able to check into the library from 7:30am to work quietly or read. Students or families do not need to provide notification before they attend and there is no cost for this supervision. If students wish to attend breakfast in the Dining Hall then they are to swipe in using their Student Card and the associated cost will be added to their TAS Account. There is no specific academic support available to students at this time of the day. This gives students a safe and quiet place to work on their own.

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

The library will be staffed from 4 to 6pm. The staff will be overseeing students working quietly in the library and assisting them with organising and completing their homework. They will be able to give general guidance, but is not there to provide specific tutoring in areas of concern.

As with the early morning program, there is no cost for students accessing this support, nor do they need to book in.

### **Evening Program (3:30pm–7pm Mondays-Thursdays for Years 9-12)**

The library will be open for all students in Years 9 to 12 to work quietly until 7pm. There is no subject specific academic support available during this time, however the library is supervised by Mrs Bremner and Mrs Polson who can give general guidance as required. Both day and boarding students are not required to book in to the library, nor will they be charged for this access.

Students are able to access dinner in the Dining Hall after 5:30pm and can do so by swiping their Student Card at the door. The cost associated with dinner (approx. \$6 per meal) will be added to their TAS account. Boarders are to sign out of their boarding house and return when required.

### **Evening Program (7-9pm on Mondays- Thursdays for Years 9-12)**

The library is staffed by Mrs Susan Polson from 6 to 9pm. Mrs Polson is a trained teacher who is currently undertaking further studies in Special Education. In this time, Mrs Polson will be overseeing students working quietly in the library and assisting them with organising and completing their homework. She will give general guidance, assist in researching and referencing but is not providing specific tutoring in areas of concern. There is no cost for any senior student accessing this support nor do they need to book in. Boarders are to sign out of their boarding house and return when required.



Mrs Seonia Wark



## Friday Afternoon Program (3:30pm – 5:30pm for Years 6-12)

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. There is no cost for students accessing the library in this time, nor do they need to book in.

## Tutoring

A separate tutorial schedule, is available to students in Literacy and Numeracy from 3.45pm - 5pm for students in Years 6 - 8. Day students accessing specific tutoring sessions will be charged \$15 per afternoon. Tutors will keep rolls and the charges associated with these sessions will be added to TAS accounts each month. It is best, though not compulsory, for us to know if you want your child booked into these tutoring sessions. Families can do this by contacting Mrs Vickey O'Brien (vobrien@as.edu.au or 6776 5806) for more details.

Boarders attending these sessions must sign out of the house in the normal manner and return by the required time. There is no additional cost for boarders as out of hours support is already part of the Schedule of Fees for 2019.

Day students are able to access dinner in the Dining Hall from 5:30pm and will do so by swiping their Student Card at the door. The cost associated with dinner (approx. \$6 per meal) will be added to their TAS account. Day students must be collected from the school by 6pm. Families are to arrange directly with their child when and where they will be collected.

	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>
<b>Year 6/7/8</b>	4pm – 5pm English/Maths/Science		4pm – 5pm English/Maths/Science	
<b>Year 9/10</b>	7pm – 9pm Maths/Science/ English- (general assistance)	7pm – 9pm Maths/Science/ English- (general assistance)		
<b>Year 11/12</b>	7pm – 9pm Maths/Chemistry/ English- (general assistance)	7pm – 9pm Maths/Chemistry/ English- (general assistance)		
<b>Year 9/10/11/12</b>			7pm – 9pm Maths – all levels	7pm – 9pm Maths – all levels





# ACADEMIC

## Junior School Trip to Tezukayama in Osaka, Japan

On the first day of the holidays, a group of students from Year 4, 5 and 6 travelled to Osaka in Japan to visit Tezukayama School.

Our host families were waiting for us at the airport. That is when I first met Miho, Larry and Ririka. They took me home to their house where I stayed with them for the next 10 days.

We went to school each day with our host families. In Japan most people travel to school by public transport. They catch trams, trains and buses and don't need their parents help to do it!

When we first arrived at school we had to change out of shoes and into our slippers which we wore every time we went inside.

We did lots of different activities during school time. We decorated silk scarves, practiced writing calligraphy, we made our own Japanese fans and helped our host families with their English lessons.

Every day we ate our lunch in the dining room. Unlike at boarders lunch at TAS, everybody had the same food. You have to wait until everyone is ready and then you say ITADAKIMASU and then it's ok to eat.

On the last day we got to pound cooked rice with a big hammer to make mochi. All the Japanese kids cheered us on as we banged the hot cooked rice until it turned into a white, sticky, doughy mochi. We then got to roll it into balls and the kitchen staff cooked it for us for lunch.

A highlight of the trip was our trip to Kyoto. We visited the Golden Temple, we crept along the Nightingale floor at Nijojo castle, we went to a samurai park where movies are made and saw a street performer and a samurai presentation. We got to sleep on futons on the floor in our hotel room and wear kimonos like traditional Japanese people. Moore Sensei introduced us to Coolish- the most delicious ice cream I have ever had.

I can't wait for our Japanese friends to come and visit us later this year. If you ever get the chance to go on the TEZ trip, you should definitely go. We all had such a wonderful time and made lots and lots of new friends!!

### *Mosie Wright (Year 5)*



# DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

## Connect with us in 2019!

Welcome to our many new families! As you will find, TAS is more than a school, but a diverse community of students, parents and friends, past, present and future. There are many ways to engage with the School and stay connected.

The TAS website [www.as.edu.au](http://www.as.edu.au) is the first place to go to for information about what's happening at TAS. Click on the Portals button at the top right of the home page to go to the Parents Portal, where you can find everything you need to know in one place - whether it be current news, forms and school policies, links to the Uniform and Book Shop and Medical Centre, the latest dining room menus - and so much more. Please familiarise yourself with the information available, and bookmark it for your convenience. Also on the menu bar is a shortcut to the School's photo gallery ([www.as.edu.au/community/photo-gallery](http://www.as.edu.au/community/photo-gallery)); simply click on the camera icon next to the Round Square logo.



Every Wednesday the School's weekly newsletter TAS Talks is produced, full of information of relevance to current families. A link to TAS Talks is emailed to those who subscribe; for details how to add your email address to the distribution list, [CLICK HERE](#).

TAS is also a recognised leader in social media, utilising various platforms. On Facebook, 'Like' us at [www.facebook.com/TASarmidale](http://www.facebook.com/TASarmidale) - as more than 3500 other members of our community have done.

Closed Facebook Groups have also been set up by the P&F for parents of each year group. These are named according to the cohort's final year eg, TAS Year 12 2021 (the current Year 10), TAS Year 12 2032 (Transition). Please search for your year's Group and join.

We also post images to the School's Instagram account @tasarmidale which offers snapshots of #taslife; for those on Twitter, follow us @TASarmidale.

Many sports and co-curricular Music also use Team App, a handy way of getting out urgent information about practices, team lists and results.

To see if your sport offers Team App (and to subscribe, go to <http://www.as.edu.au/life-at-tas/co-curricular/sport/co-curricular-life/>

Current families and Old Armidalian (our former students) receive the quarterly publication Binghi, which is also available in digital form [HERE](#).

Welcome aboard!

**Tim Hughes**  
**Media Manager**



Welcome to 2019 and the raft of Challenge events which make up both the Triple Crown and our overall program. The first event on the calendar for this year is the 2km Coffs Ocean Swim on 7 April, followed by the Tour de Rocks on 11-13 April. (<https://www.tourderocks.com.au>).

The Tour de Rocks is an amazing event, comprising a three day 259km ride from Armidale to South West Rocks, inspiring communities to find a cure for cancer. In 2018 the event raised \$221,400 all of which goes back into the local community ([https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/796b80\\_1344c69ae59d4518bd40a3de495b4c0f.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/796b80_1344c69ae59d4518bd40a3de495b4c0f.pdf)). This year organisers are hoping to reach \$250,000. The ride is fully catered, with riders and support crew camping the two nights of the event. TAS then arranges accommodation on Saturday night (at South West Rocks) and we all join in the final dinner on Saturday night.

**Dates:** Thursday 1 - Saturday 13 April (Ride), returning to Armidale Sunday 14 April midday.

**Cost:** Student riders \$400 plus \$250 fundraising (through raffles tickets) or pay the charge.

Adult supporters \$420 plus \$250 fundraising (through raffles tickets) or pay the charge.

Adult riders \$450 plus \$250 fundraising (through raffles tickets) or pay the charge.

By utilising the raffle tickets, riders can virtually halve the cost of the ride. This is a very good way to also present the Tour to the wider community. Charges for the Tour will be spread out over two terms so as to minimise the financial burden.

This charge covers all meals whilst on the ride, bike maintenance, hydration, snacks, supper amongst the TAS group (drinks for supporters) etc as well as an official Tour de Rocks cycling jersey. Accommodation on the ride is in tents, provided by TAS along with sleeping mats, cutlery, plates and cups. This also includes Accommodation on Saturday night, the Tour Dinner, breakfast Sunday as well as return transport to Armidale.

Training times will be organised once final numbers have been submitted. Mark Bullen (Armidale Bicycle Centre) is happy to assist all TAS riders before and during the event, especially with bike set-up.

Should you wish for your child to participate, or any further questions (and should you wish to either ride or join in as support crew), could you please contact me in the affirmative by 18 February at [jpenning@as.edu.au](mailto:jpenning@as.edu.au)

**Mr James Pennington**  
**Coordinator of Challenge and Service**



Louis Ross and parents Suzy and David (OA) completed the Tour de Rocks in 2018

The TAS Swimming Championships are being held at the TAS pool this week. All students must wear TAS swimmers and will be issued with a house swimming cap.

Middle School and Senior School Events commenced with Butterfly and the 200IM on Tuesday 12 February at 6:45pm.

Junior School Championships will be held on Thursday 14 February, commencing at 9am.

Arguably the highlight for spectators will be the 200m freestyle (entrants published Wednesday) and House War Cries on Thursday 14 February, commencing at 6:45pm. All students should attend, wearing their house polo-shirt and blue shorts. With the judges placing great emphasis on unity, Houses will be working hard to include all new students and making everyone feel a part of this special event. If you haven't previously experienced War Cries Night at TAS - it is one not to be missed!

The main day for Middle and Senior School will commence at 8:45am on Friday 15 February. This is a mass participation event. Whilst students should have completed entry cards at house meetings this week, entries will still be accepted next week through house captains. A BBQ lunch is provided for all students and parents and the P&F will be running a cake stall throughout the day.

We look forward to seeing you at one or all of the events.



### TAS MS/SS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2019

Start time (approx)	EVENT No.	AGE	DISTANCE (m)	STROKE
6:45pm Tuesday 12 February 2019	1	12 & under Girls	50	Butterfly
	2	13 Girls	50	Butterfly
	3	14 Girls	50	Butterfly
	4	15 Girls	50	Butterfly
	5	16 Girls	50	Butterfly
	6	17 Girls	50	Butterfly
	7	18 & over Girls	50	Butterfly
	8	12 & under Boys	50	Butterfly
	9	13 Boys	50	Butterfly
	10	14 Boys	50	Butterfly
	11	15 Boys	50	Butterfly
	12	16 Boys	50	Butterfly
	13	17 Boys	50	Butterfly
7:20pm	14	18 & over Boys	50	Butterfly
	15	Sub-Junior Girls (13 & U)	200	Individual Medley Final
	16	Junior Girls (14-15)	200	Individual Medley Final
	17	Senior Girls (16 +)	200	Individual Medley Final
	18	Sub-Junior Boys (13 & U)	200	Individual Medley Final
	19	Junior Boys (14-15)	200	Individual Medley Final
	20	Senior Boys (16 +)	200	Individual Medley Final
6:45pm Thursday 14 February 2019	21	Senior Boys (16 +)	200	Freestyle
	22	Sub-Junior Boys (13 & U)	200	Freestyle
	23	Junior Boys (14-15)	200	Freestyle
	24	Senior Girls (16 +)	200	Freestyle
	25	Junior Girls (14-15)	200	Freestyle
	26	Sub-Junior Girls (13 & U)	200	Freestyle
8.45am Friday 15 February 2019	27	Open	4x50	Medley Relay
	28	12 & under Girls	50	Freestyle
	29	13 Girls	50	Freestyle
	30	14 Girls	50	Freestyle
	31	15 Girls	50	Freestyle
	32	16 Girls	50	Freestyle
	33	17 Girls	50	Freestyle
	34	18 & over Girls	50	Freestyle
	35	12 & under Boys	50	Freestyle
	36	13 Boys	50	Freestyle
	37	14 Boys	50	Freestyle
	38	15 Boys	50	Freestyle
	39	16 Boys	50	Freestyle
	40	17 Boys	50	Freestyle
	41	18 & over Boys	50	Freestyle
	42	12 & under Girls	50	Backstroke
	43	13 Girls	50	Backstroke
	44	14 Girls	50	Backstroke
	45	15 Girls	50	Backstroke
	46	16 Girls	50	Backstroke
47	17 Girls	50	Backstroke	
48	18 & over Girls	50	Backstroke	

Mr Will Caldwell

[CLICK SCHEDULE TO ENLARGE](#)



# CO-CURRICULAR REPORTS

## Trial Bay Triathlon

The idyllic waters of South West Rocks hosted the 30th running of the Trial Bay Triathlon on 10 February. A popular event on the NSW race calendar, comprising a 600m swim, 26km cycle and a 6km run. The TAS team had a great outing, with Sam Jones placing 21st overall and the 6th fastest run split, Isabella Gooch winning her age group and Alexandra Reed receiving the Encouragement Award for the youngest female finisher. Oliver Griffiths and Clancy Roberts both finished in the Top 100, whilst Kate Allen and April Draney experienced success in their first open event. In the Juniors event on Saturday afternoon, Charlotte Tydd (Year 7) was the Champion 12yr Girls, whilst her younger brother Angus (Year 5) placed 5th in the 10yr Boys.

*Mr James Pennington*



# FROM THE CREATIVE ARTS COORDINATOR

MR ANDREW O'CONNELL

The beginning of term brings a number of important academic experiences for our Creative Arts students. The Year 11 and 12 Drama students have just returned from their excursion to Sydney, where they watched OnSTAGE (the top Individual Projects and Group Performances from 2018), *The Wolves* at Belvoir, *Intersections: Arrival* by Australian Theatre for Young People and had a range of other theatrical experiences. For our Senior Drama students this is an opportunity to be inspired and motivated as they look to the major performances and projects they will soon be undertaking.

Next week Senior students in Music and Visual Arts will head to Sydney to watch Encore (a showcase of top Music performances from 2018, of which Kira Dooner was one of the nominations) and visit a range of art galleries and the Australian Institute of Music (AIM). We also have groups headed to Bravissimo and to NECOM for some Music study days in the next couple of weeks.

The countdown is on for *Oliver!* with the show opening on Thursday 21 March and running for eight shows over two weeks. As part of our marketing the cast will be making an appearance at the PCYC Markets in the Mall on Sunday 24 February, performing some pieces between 10:30am and 11:30am, so make sure you get along to see a sneak peek. Tickets are on sale at <https://www.trybooking.com/BAMXV> with a family ticket deal to make sure everyone can get along to see the show.

And if you would like to help out with *Oliver!* our next working bee will be Saturday 23 February from 9:30am. There's plenty more to be done on the set and I know Mrs Leasa Cleaver would love some assistance with costumes and sewing if anyone has skills on a machine.

***Mr Andrew O'Connell***





### So far, so good

Well, Week 3 has arrived and, considering this is a term of 'firsts' for so many Middle School people, we're managing reasonably well. New classes, teachers, sporting teams combine with Chapel, Assembly, War Cries and Day and Boarding House activities to make for a time of not inconsiderable adjustment. Perhaps the most important aspect of your children's time at TAS at the moment is the fact that they're busy. Weather has been frustrating some activities, however, and I'm sure all will join me in wishing for less extreme heat in the very near future. Wow, and this is Armidale! Some, I suspect, will be reminding me when, and I'm almost certain to do this, I make cold weather comments next term. Be assured that wherever possible boarding students continue to experience their weekend activities organised by White House and Girls' boarding and Mr Mike Baumgartner and all are making preparations for the next part of the term and, as I indicated at our Town Meeting this week, our annual swimming carnival in particular.

### Swimming Carnival

You'll have received by now information about the Parent Information Session, light dinner and start of the Swimming Carnival this coming Thursday evening. Again, I encourage you, wherever possible, to attend these sessions and also the continuing swimming activities on Friday. For many families this will be your first actual contact with the boys and girls and it's time to 'catch up', encourage and listen to them. Certainly, there's much news to tell and I know the Middle School people are looking forward to the end of this week, in particular.

All, for example, have been attending their Senior Houses for War Cry practice sessions and such activities are necessary to the development of their perceptions of 'community'. The House and Swimming Captains are making Middle School students feel welcome in their respective Houses – I know this for a fact because I've been trailing after them to witness the various activities, the most recent ones being Green and Ross in the Year 12 Study Room and Rev's Room, Abbott on Wakefield, Tyrrell in the Common Room area and Croft over near the dam. As was the case over the last few years, while the students are very good with volume and I'm sure there are those who can hold a tune.

### Family

Despite the conventional wisdom associated with keeping all new and returning students gainfully employed it would be supremely naïve to think that none is missing home. As indicated last week, while their reactions are as various as their individuality, missing home is natural and considering this feeling is an affirmation of 'things familiar' and people they know well and trust, it is, as I've indicated, actually a very normal reaction and something we expect. To their very real credit the boarding staff have been tremendously busy and supportive: I went to White House last week and again last night to find that so many staff, including Mr Jamie Brauer and Mrs Regina Pollard were on duty, assisting with academic work and, perhaps more importantly at this stage of the year, just talking to the students about their day. I found exactly the same scenario when I visited Girls' boarding last week and yesterday afternoon.



Mr Mark Harrison

Almost everywhere I discovered good humor and sound commonsense. The signs of a very healthy, successful start to the year are strong and positive.

To ensure success I ask that you, likewise, encourage your children, ask about the good things that happened in their day and, above all else, reassure them when and where necessary about matters requiring same. I also encourage you, now that most of you are about to see your younger family members, to let us know of concerns relating to them. Again, I want you to contact us about any concerns you may have, especially at this stage of the year.



# FROM THE HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL

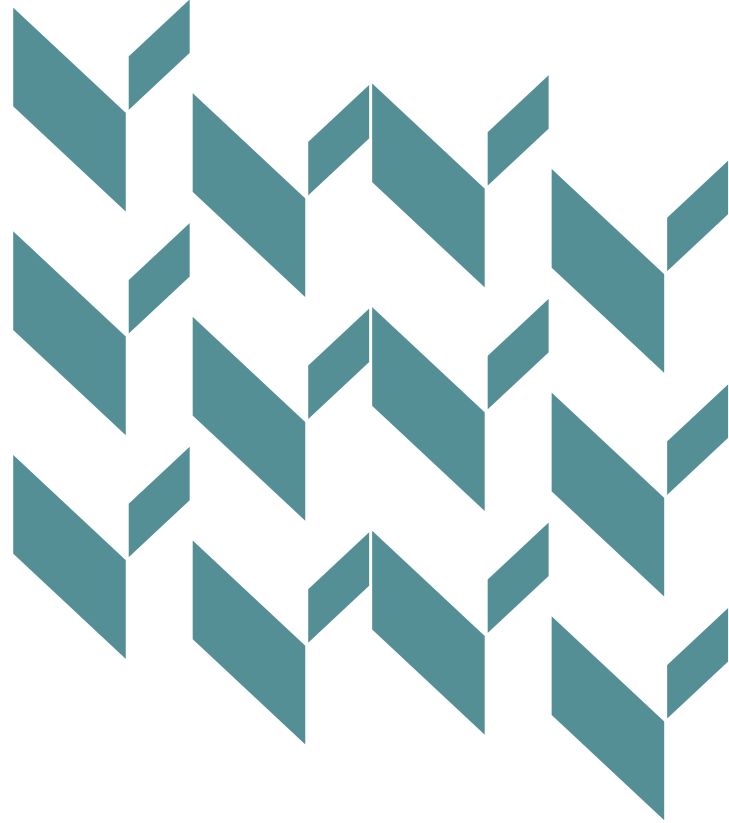
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## Homework

Already this week I've fielded a number of enquiries about the issue of homework. While it is easy for us to assist boarders with their new study routines during Prep time, it would be a very good idea, I think, for parents of day students to familiarise themselves with the organization of a daily work completion routine. If you have questions about the process, please speak to your child's Homeroom Teacher who will be able to advise you about the best ways to facilitate the process of homework completion and assignment / assessment preparation. What I like about this initiative is that it gives us opportunity to support and guide Middle School students to the realization of good study habits over time. The success of this issue is dependent on mutually supportive communications between us.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible this week at our Parent Information afternoon, light dinner and drinks and then at the House War Cries events at the pool complex .

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



## Liaison Parents for 2019

Each year we look back and thank our Liaison Parents, realising what an important task they perform, supporting the parent body and providing the structures to ensure our families feel informed. It is a real treat to start the year with a full contingent of LP's and we thank Soph Wright for this breath-taking achievement...! They are - Transition: Emalene Gemmell & Amanda McDowell. Kindergarten: Penny Leary & Lynne Secker. Year 1: Kate Stephen & Sue Polson. Year 2: Melanie Fillios & Suha Tazami. Year 3: Lexi Glover & Nic Shenko. Year 4: Siew Wilkinson & Penny Leary. Year 5: Anita Hunter & Kath Little. We thank them all....

## House Leaders – Semester 1 2019

Last week, Year 5 prepared and presented speeches to the school about House Leadership and their thoughts about making a difference in Junior School. It has been satisfying to hear how well they were received by the students, as well as just how confidently they were able to put their case. Staff were also able to discuss the appointments and it is therefore with great pleasure that I announce the House Leaders for Semester 1: Broughton House - Will Ogilvie, Archer Starr and Mosie Wright; Green House – Mila Downes, Andy Hardin and Charlie Ward; Ross House - Sonny Blanch, Oliver Goudge and Sophia White.

## Junior School Swimming

### Championships - Thursday Feb 14

Thursday will be another a very special day for all our families as we come together for our Swimming Championships. As always, we rely heavily on the assistance from our parent body to help us and from years of experience, with our younger students also participating in water activities, it is always a lot of fun.

TAS TALKS | 17

Today, the students all rehearsed their war cries and they are very excited about the day. We allow students to dress up for the day but within reason, it should be fun with hats, wigs and glasses etc., but please nothing that might mark the carpet in the Sports Centre (zinc, crepe paper) and no writing on bodies.

We hope you can all join us – even if it is only for a short time. Lunch for parents and helpers will be provided from around 12:15 pm in the Junior School playground and we hope to see you there.

## Lake Keepit Excursion – Week 6

During Week 6, classes from Years 2 to 5 will be spending some time at the Sport and Recreation Centre at Lake Keepit as part of their annual excursion. This has become an important part of our educational offering and provides a wonderful opportunity for our children to challenge themselves in a safe and exciting outdoor setting and as such, all students are expected to attend. General information has been sent out this week to the parents of those participating. If you did not receive this or if you have any questions, please contact reception.

## Travel To and From School

Please note the following points:

- Junior School playground supervision begins at 8.15 am. Children at school before this time must move directly to the activity and report to the organising teacher. All students should arrive at school before the start of classes at 8.45 to allow for some playtime in the playground.
- Transition collection is from 3.20 pm, all other classes finish at 3.30 pm when After School Care begins. All children catching buses, must alert their teacher each day



Mr Ian Lloyd

so a roll can be collated.

The bus schedule has changed significantly so all variations to school travel should be notified through the JS Reception.

- The Chapel St Turning Circle system is well advertised with signage in the area. Please be ready to pick up your child and should there be a delay, be prepared to continue around the circuit until collection can be successfully achieved. Please do not leave your car unattended in this area and always take care to drive slowly and carefully
- If there are any issues with transport or you wish to report anything that might endanger our students, please ring me immediately.

## New England Autumn Festival – 16 March

Each year, TAS enters the Armidale Autumn Festival as a way to promote our school and support the community of New England. This year, The New England Festival as it will now be known, will showcase the multi-cultural nature of our community and we will be in a great position to do the same. Please highlight this date in your diaries and we will be forwarding more information to you closer to the date.

### Week 3

Wed 13 Feb Year 3 Assembly – Hoskins Centre  
Thu 14 Feb Junior School Swimming Championships

### Week 4

Mon 18 Feb Scholarship and Open Day  
Wed 20 Feb Year 2 Assembly – Hoskins Centre

### Week 5

Wed 27 Feb Year 1 Assembly – Hoskins Centre  
Thu 28 Feb NCIS Swimming – Alstonville  
Fri 1 Mar Activities Day No 1

### Week 6

Mon 4 Mar Year 5 to Lake Keepit  
Tue 5 Mar Year 4 to Lake Keepit  
Wed 6 Mar Year 3 to Lake Keepit  
No Assembly  
Thur 7 Mar Year 2 to Lake Keepit  
Fri 8 Mar All return from Lake Keepit



## JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT

### Junior School Swimming Carnival

All nominations are now in and races have been finalised. We are looking forward to a fun filled swimming carnival this Thursday. We are expecting a very warm day in the pool area, so please ensure your child has plenty of water for the day in their bag. An extra water bottle with frozen water is always a good idea.

Children are required to come dressed to school in their house coloured t-shirts for this event. Swimmers may be worn under their sports uniform for ease of changing ready for events.

Our day commences promptly at 9:00am with the Open 200IM girls' and boys' event.

Please see the [Program of Events](#) (located on the TAS website) for the day. Times for breaks will be as followed, however, these times can alter slightly due to the nature of the day.

Recess: 10:30-11:00am  
Lunch: 12:15-1:00pm

If you are willing to help at our Swimming Carnival with time keeping please let Mrs Wright know before the day by emailing her on: [cwright@as.edu.au](mailto:cwright@as.edu.au)

### MRS CHRISTINE WRIGHT

### TAFE NSW Netball Schools Cup

We are looking for expressions of interest for anyone in Years 3-5 who may be interested in playing Netball this year. TAFE NSW are running a Netball competition/Gala Day in Armidale on Wednesday, 27 March. Teams can be either boy/girl or mixed for this Gala Day.

Please email Mrs Sandra Lasker [slasker@as.edu.au](mailto:slasker@as.edu.au) if you are interested or pop in to let her know.

*Mrs Christine Wright*

## The International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme's Transdisciplinary Framework

*"Transdisciplinary learning in the PYP refers to learning that is not confined within the boundaries of traditional subjects but is supported and enriched by them." (IBO 2018)*

The Primary Years Programme (PYP) has a commitment to student learning in a transdisciplinary context, embedded in the curriculum framework and connected across key elements of the programme: concepts, approaches to learning, knowledge and action. The transdisciplinary approach provides continuous integration and connection of prior knowledge and experiences and is the most meaningful way to broaden student understanding about the world.

A transdisciplinary approach encourages the learners' curiosity, questions and voice between and beyond the confines of subjects. There are six transdisciplinary themes, which are universal and can be explored regardless of where PYP students are in the world and with which ethnic or cultural group they identify. The themes are globally and socially driven and provide the opportunity for students to be provided with learning experiences that are not bound by traditional subject areas. (IBO 2018) Our JS teachers have carefully planned a rich programme of inquiry (POI) which integrates two or more subject areas in each theme. These will be explored in greater detail next week.

### **PYP Transdisciplinary Themes**

- **Who we are**
- **Where we are in place and time**
- **How we express ourselves**
- **How the world works**
- **How we organise ourselves**
- **Sharing the planet**

Transdisciplinarity provokes the learner into reflecting on, and recognising, what he or she believes about the world and about his or her place in it. In his seminal work, Freire (2005:81) believed

"students, as they are increasingly posed with problems relating to themselves in the world and with the world, will feel increasingly challenged and obliged to respond to that challenge." In line with the IB mission statement, which challenges all members of IB World Schools to "create a better and more peaceful world" (IBO 2017:7).

**Mrs Veronica Waters**  
**PYP Coordinator**





Dearest Pottery Parents,  
I have had a great break! I hope you all have, too. I am very keen to resume teaching your children. These classes are designed to teach practical skills in claywork, design and problem solving. Most importantly this is done in an atmosphere of cooperation and heaps of FUN! Our first project this year is a portrait mask that will be based on a character we create for ourselves at the first lesson. You can either bring fanciful clothes, hats and accessories from home, or we can give you access to these items. Our mask will be based on portrait photos we take while in character. This is a great project that we did successfully a few years ago.

**Who:** any child in Years K to 5

**Where:** Art Room 1 in the Hoskins Centre of The Armidale School

**When:** Class commences Tuesday, 12 Feb. Official times are from 4pm until 5 pm, but students may arrive any time after 3:20 pm. We will have three lessons, then a break on 4 March. Three more lessons, then a break on April 2. We have our party and exhibition on April 9.

**Cost:** \$150. This covers materials, firing and instruction.

**Enrolment:** By email on [weemalapot@yahoo.com.au](mailto:weemalapot@yahoo.com.au), or by phone on 6772 5371. Please include your child's age and name and your best contact phone number.

If you wish to discuss this with me or ask any questions please feel free to contact me.

**Rick Hatch**





**NECOM's range of programs are designed to inspire and develop music skills for life in every child!**

**Enrol now for 2019!**



### Senior Choral Program

The acclaimed New England Singers provides talented and committed young singers in years 7-12 the opportunity to develop their musical skills in a challenging and inspiring environment focused on achieving excellence in performance.



### Instrumental Lessons

NECOM's Instrumental Program offers instrumental lessons by our dedicated teacher-musicians or Music Educator Members. For children through to adults, string, piano, brass and woodwind lessons at NECTOM or in schools are available, along with an option to hire instruments.



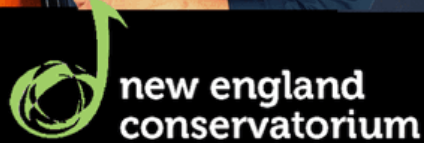
### Ensembles

NECOM provides a range of ensembles for beginners to intermediate and advanced students in the Chamber Ensemble Program, Armidale Youth String Orchestra and Armidale Youth Orchestra. These ensembles provide an excellent opportunity for young musicians to develop advanced aural, co-ordination, music reading, technical and communication skills.

**Music is for everyone so come and learn in a fun and friendly environment.  
Instrumental Hire and Bursaries are available.**

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# NECOM STAFF CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT

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SUNDAY 17 FEBRUARY 4:00PM  
AUDITORIUM, CB NEWLING BUILDING  
(OLD TEACHERS COLLEGE)

TICKETS: [WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/BANJO](http://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/BANJO)

