



CREATING OUR FUTURE

## THANK YOU

Thank you to our families for your patience and assistance to keep learning in motion for our students.

We are all living in extraordinary times; dealing with changes in the way we interact and live with physical restrictions, emotional stresses, financial pressures and children learning from home.

Teachers and staff have worked diligently to put a structure in place that allowed students to continue learning.

This has been a team effort from our whole school community.

Thank you!

# NEWS LETTER

Safe Respectful Learners

TERM 3 | WEEK 10 | September 2021



Term 3 Week 10 at Toormina High School has seen us all masked up and happy to be back at school!



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## Spring has sprung!

Spring has sprung and our gardens in the Support Unit are thriving! Room 24 students are caring for the hydroponic garden and are carefully measuring the nutrients to add to the water. Next we check the ph to ensure we get maximum growth. Students are testing the hydroponic garden using electronic nutrient meters and Ph pens. We have plenty of leafy greens growing such as lettuce, spinach, celery, parsley as well as tomatoes and snow peas.

**Marg Hope, Support Teacher**





SASS, School Administration and Support Staff, play an important role in our school community. They are often the first people you see when you enter a school and are essential to maintaining positive relationships with students, parents and the community.

SAS staff work in school offices, in classrooms and libraries and maintaining and caring for school grounds and buildings. They are often the ones to tend to students when they unwell and they ensure the efficient management of school financial and administration functions. At THS last week the Principal and Deputies showed their appreciation by organising and cooking lunch for our SASS staff.

## SASS Appreciation



Please 'like' the Toormina High School Facebook page (look for the school logo) and 'share' our posts - this is a free, easy way to show the world our achievements and activities!

The THS Library also has a Facebook page.



## NAIDOC Colouring Competition

FIRST Year 9 - Mia Jarrett  
 FIRST Year 7 - Tisukhon Nonthawong  
 SECOND Year 7 - Lillian Cruwys  
 FIRST Support Unit - Freya O'Reilly  
 SECOND Support Unit - River Maxwell  
 HIGHLY COMMENDED Kyah Cannon, Maddy Raven Post, Bryce Duffy

Congratulations from Ms Purton!

## BUSWAYS INFORMATION

Dear Parents and Students,  
 Roadworks at the intersection of Combine St & Azalea St are nearing completion and we can advise that services will return to original times and path from Tuesday 5th October 2021 (1st day of Term 4).  
 For further information please contact Busways Customer Service on 1300 69 2929 or [infoline@busways.com.au](mailto:infoline@busways.com.au).  
 Alternatively you can view all of your schools timetabled services at: <https://www.busways.com.au/.../school.../school-timetables> and select the link adjacent to your schools name; "New timetable | 05 October 2021".  
 Yours sincerely,  
 BUSWAYS



## SCU Head-Start 2022

Unfortunately the Head-Start program for 2022 has been cancelled.  
 It is being revamped and will be offered again in 2023.  
 The White Card course has been postponed until Term 4.  
**Robyn West, Careers Adviser**

All students who borrowed school **LAPTOPS** please return them to the front office as they are needed in classrooms.

Please bring your own **water bottle** to school and use the chilled water filling stations.

## IMPORTANT DATES

MON	4/10	PUBLIC HOLIDAY
TUES	5/10	First day Term 4 all students
TUES	5/10 - 8/10	WEEK A
WED	20/10	P&C Meeting, all welcome! 5:30pm - 7:00pm

### Run Against Violence

Teacher Librarian, Adrienne Gillingham, has been a member of the North Coast Love Bites RAV Team where they have been virtually running/walking from Broken Hill to Sydney. The journey began on 30th of August and the team reached the finish line at Luna Park in Sydney on September 14th a few days ahead of schedule. Money raised from the challenge goes towards funding Love Bites, a respectful relationship program in schools throughout Australia, and other community initiatives to raise awareness and to support those affected by domestic and family violence.

Anyone wishing to donate in support of this worthwhile cause are able to do so via this link <https://www.runagainstviolence.com/donate>



### We like to introduce staff via a small questionnaire...



Name... **Tammy Adams.**

THS Position...English/HSIE Teacher.

The high school I attended was... St John Paul College.

On weekends I enjoy...spending time outdoors with my 7 year old son.

I love...TikTok, it's my secret habit.

I don't like...rude people.

When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me...don't waste time worrying about things that most likely will not even happen!



Name...**Sophie Rich**

THS Position...Casual Teacher

The high school I attended was...Terrigal High School

On weekends I enjoy...going to the beach, exploring, drawing or painting.

I love...DOGS. I stop and say "Hey" to every dog I walk past.

I don't like...living far away from my family and our family dog and living in an apartment where I can't have a dog :(

When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me...that being an adult is hard and to enjoy my teenage years! I also wish I had been told to start saving for a house when I was a lot younger!

## Principal's Column

Today we say goodbye to our Year 12 students as they prepare for their upcoming HSC examinations. It is clear to me that this cohort of young adults has demonstrated qualities above and beyond their years. They have continued their connection and diligence to their work and to Toormina High School during the past term as we went in and out of the 'stay at home orders'. It was fabulous to see so many Year 12 students coming in to rehearse music, complete art projects and attend some face-to-face small group lessons. I am positive that the maturity this group of students have shown during this time has demonstrated how prepared they are to enter the world beyond school. As we have not yet held their graduation ceremony, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them all for completing thirteen years of education and wish them the best for the HSC exams and their futures beyond school.

I would also like to say a huge thanks to our teachers, office and support staff for the work they have done in supporting our students learning through this challenging time. I was able to enter the 280+ online classes over the past four weeks and see the amazing work our teachers were doing to support student learning. Additionally, we delivered over 300 printed packages of work to students beyond the hundreds of zoom lessons and google classroom activities. It is certainly not a perfect system, however with the support of our parents it got us to where we are today. Thank you to the overwhelming incredible support that we received from our parents during this time.

Hopefully, when we return after the holidays, it is to a new normal where masks are not required to be worn. Keep safe and enjoy the break.

**Paul Humphrey**

We love any opportunity to share appreciation for our staff, if you would like to contribute please email us! [toormina-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:toormina-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Dear Mr Humphrey

I would like to thank Ms Firkins for her phone calls and taking the time to prepare and print the education pack during lockdown.

I acknowledge how challenging and time consuming it is for the teachers to continue educating their students from afar. Our daughter has enjoyed working through her school pack and I appreciate the consideration to the activities and tailoring it to the level and needs of each student.

I received a check in call from Miss Evans and we watched the sew saw videos that Mr Gale, the teachers and SLSO's from the Support Unit made which helped to feel connected with the Toormina School community.

Our family learnt many lessons from the previous lockdown as I imagine your school and staff have and the past month has been more manageable and positive with the focus on doing some school work every weekday and balancing it with exercise, boardgames and phone/online contact with family and friends. The zooms that Miss Hope initiated in week 3 and 4 of lockdown were invaluable and it was evident from our daughter's independent participation, enthusiasm and smiles when she joined the zooms with the staff and students from the Support Unit. Face to face is always the preferred learning environment but when this is not possible due to Covid the zooms connecting the students with each other and the staff is imperative to maintaining their connection and wellbeing. It provided a little certainty seeing and hearing their friends, teachers and SLSO's online in these uncertain times.

Thank you and enjoy the school holidays. I hope everyone remains safe and able to enjoy their liberties.



## Write a Book in a Day



Primary school students from our Bongil Bongil Community of Schools were over the moon to receive their personal copy of the book they wrote for Write a Book in a Day. These budding young authors will bring a smile to the face of many ill children in hospitals throughout Australia.



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**Year 7 LOTE**  
Year 7 LOTE students made games in the Gumbaynggirr language. Photos show 7 Emerald trying out their games.

