

TOORMINA HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Week 10, December 2012



Thank You Bunnings & Best & Less



Experiencing work at **Bunnings** - above, Taylor Woods, below Amie Hill, Cianan Halloran and Samantha Irwin.



This year our Support Unit students celebrated 10 years of Work Experience. The Manager of Bunnings, Lisa Wilson said, "In our company Work Experience is a local initiative. We live here, this is our community and we are happy to support our students". The level of support is high throughout the store. Staff greet us warmly in the morning, the floor staff assist when we need it and the Section Managers give us our jobs. Work Experience enables students to gain real life experiences and it develops confidence and self esteem. Our main duties include returning stock to the shelves, cleaning, "fronting" products and working in the Nursery. Thanks from all our students past and present.
N. Belling



Above right is Jodie Lange at **Best & Less, Centro** with manager, Candice Robinson and trainee manager Emily Powers. Candice said Jodie is a great worker and that it had been a pleasure watching Jodie gain confidence over the year.

Toormina Students save Lives!!!

The Red Cross Bloodbank's Vampire Shield encourages young people to become regular blood donors. Toormina High students visit the Bloodbank each term to donate. With one blood donation saving three lives, this is a wonderful initiative and it is admirable that so many of our students are willing to get involved.

Everyone can contribute – any member of the Toormina High School community can get involved. Parents, grandparents, friends, staff, anyone involved with the school are encouraged to get involved. Simply fill out a Club Red slip next time you donate and your donation will contribute to our school tally.

Congratulations to our donors for 2012 and we look forward to welcoming more donors in 2013.

L.Mullan



Just some of our many
**AWARD
WINNERS
2012**





7 Blue Drama Production

After discussions in English about problems that might arise for students entering high school, Seven Blue penned and developed a series of plays addressing issues such as violence, bullying, theft, vandalism and racism.

The plays were workshopped over a number of weeks and finally performed in front of an enthusiastic audience of staff, parents and fellow students on Thursday, November 29.

All students enjoyed the process of play-building, as well as performance and backstage production.

Predictably, with such an enthusiastic class, a number of huge talents emerged and fortunately Ms Cheryl Ward, Drama co-ordinator, was in the audience to scout the talent for the upcoming 2013 Musicale.

Ms Marilyn Kelly

Photos show John Gordon, Orion Parkes, Tye Shipman, Zachary Mara

Generous Jayde

Jayde Rea, a year 8 student, recently attended Deadly Days at Wauchope with Aboriginal and Torres Strait students with an school attendance rate of 85% or higher.

A number of workshops were run on the day and Jayde won a \$100 prize at the finance session. He has decided the money will be split into four \$25 prizes to reward Aboriginal and Torres Strait students for attendance and effort.

Pictured right is Jayde with Aunty Judith.





Respect and Self Esteem With Aunty Bea

Aunty Bea Ballangarry with a group of THS Indigenous Girls participating in a Respect and Self Esteem Program.

Toormina High School has been the recipient of a load of valuable native timbers thanks to an initiative of Coffs City Council. Previously trees removed by council have been chipped but new planning sees this timber milled at the depot into a variety of usable sizes and delivered to local schools. Tony Healy of Coffs City Council has indicated that this will be a long term arrangement between council and schools.

Toormina High is currently air seasoning the timber, which includes silky oak, red mahogany and blackbutt plus assorted round backs. Following the air drying, the timber will be transferred to a drying room to complete the seasoning process. The dried timber has been earmarked for use with senior students undertaking Higher School Certificate Industrial Technology Timber major projects. With the cost of timber escalating, this has been a major boost to the school, enabling students to create projects with timbers which would have normally been out of reach financially. A big thank you to Tony and Coffs City Council. Rob Berry

Thankyou Coffs City Council!



From the Principal

What a busy time of year! There are so many activities our school is undertaking at the moment. Thanks go to our teachers and parents for providing the myriad of opportunity for our students. Special acknowledgement of character, perseverance and achievement are being celebrated this week with our Presentation Day for Outstanding Achievement, Minor Awards ceremony and The Goers Excursion. Students are our focus and celebrating their achievements with them gives us great pleasure.

Thanks go to the P&C who held a fundraising barbecue last Saturday. We appreciate your support and urge all parents to consider attending our next meeting on 20th February, 2013 at 5.00pm in the Administration block. Come and learn more about your child's education at our school.

Liz Donnan

Sawtell Art Scholarships

The Sawtell Art Group will be running a Summer Youth Art workshop this holiday from the 7th to the 11th of January. Twelve students will be awarded a scholarship which will include all course fees and materials. The workshop will cover techniques and tips including an introduction into arts media, colour theory, painting on canvas and framing. It will end with a student exhibition on Sunday the 13th January where students will also have a chance to sell their masterpiece (if they wish). Please see Ms McAuley in the music staff room for more details.

Year 7 Camp

The Year 7 excursion to The Aussie Bush Camp at Tea Gardens with teachers, Ms Babbage, Mr Elsley and Year Adviser Ms Bluhm, was packed with adventure, excitement and laughter. There were many challenging and creative activities, like Commando in the Dark, high ropes in the trees, abseiling and the giant swing. All students developed new skills and attempted everything with a positive and encouraging attitude. 'I am very proud of all the students who tried new activities'. Ms Bluhm



Nathan's Blue

Last week Nathan Cunningham received a North Coast Blue award for baseball.

Nathan has represented NSW All Schools at the Australian Schoolboys Championship winning a silver medal with this team.

Nathan is part of the Brisbane Bandits squad, which plays in the Australian Baseball League (this is the only professional league in the country).

This year Nathan attended the Major League Baseball Australian Academy Program on the Gold Coast. Sixty elite athletes ranging in age from 16 - 21 from Australia, New Zealand and the USA participated. Running for six weeks Nathan was one of the youngest players and one of only six outfielders.

Nathan's dedication to the sport sees him travel to Brisbane every weekend to play A Grade for the Redland Bay Rays in the Greater Brisbane League, last season he won 'Most Valued Player'.

He also plays for Queensland in the Under 18's team which won a national title two years ago and last year was selected in the All-Star team at the National Championship. Congratulations Nathan!

Surf's Up

Benjamin Smith in Year 8 was a very happy participant in the Disabled surfers program.

Disabled Surfers Association is a group of volunteers and participants striving to get everybody in and loving the ocean. Through organised surfing days, communities and relationships are built among the people who get involved. Ben can highly recommend this program to any student and can't wait to continue "hanging 10"! K.McDowell



Any unwanted uniforms would be greatly appreciated by Mrs Mullan, Head Teacher Welfare



Relax with a book

We have so many wonderful new books in the library at the moment, so it is a great time to grab a couple for all that relaxing reading you plan on doing over the summer holidays.

Checking out the books are Brooke Edwards, Michelle Naisby, Library Assistant Yvonne Klepzig and Crystal Mantle.

Week 11	DATES
19.12.12	HSC Results
19.12.12	Students last day of school
20.12.12	Staff Development Day - Pupil Free
21.12.12	Staff Development Day - Pupil Free

SPIRIT OF TOORMINA

AWARDS

Jake Kedzlie

Shenai Horvat

Ace Craigie

Darcy Tees

Susan Harwood

Congratulations for showing a fantastic attitude that embodies the Toormina High School philosophy of caring, sharing and participating.

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