

NEWS LETTER

TERM 4 | WEEK 5 | November 2013



IMPORTANT DATES - WEEKS 5, 6, 7

TUES	5/11	Year 10	Vietnam Veterans Visit
THUR	7/11		Support Unit Plant Fair All welcome
FRI	8/11	Year 12	HSC finishes
MON	11/11	Yr 7 - 10	Examinations
		Year 8	ESSA
TUES	12/11	Yr 7 - 10	Examinations
		Year 8	ESSA
WED	13/11	Yr 7 - 10	Examinations
		Year 8	ESSA
THURS	14/11	Yr 7 - 10	Examinations
		Year 8	ESSA
FRI	15/11	Yr 7 - 10	Examinations
		Year 8	ESSA
		Year 11	RRISK
MON	18/11	Year 8	Sydney Excursion
		Year 7	Excursion
TUES	19/11	Year 8	Sydney Excursion
WED	20/11	Year 8	Sydney Excursion P&C Meeting 5pm Library
THURS	21/11	Year 8	Sydney Excursion Support Unit Coffee Shop All Welcome



COUNT TOORMINA HIGH IN!

Toormina High School celebrated the value of music education in schools by being a part of 'Music Count Us In 2013'. A mass choir of hundreds of students joined hundreds of thousands of students around Australia to sing 'Keep On' at 12:30pm on Thursday 31st October.

All music students from Toormina High School from Years 7,9 and 10 took part with students from Toormina Public School, William Bayldon Public School, Sawtell Public School and Crossmaglen Public School. The students sang in Toormina High's Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA). Each school presented a musical item followed by the singing of the 2013 song with the rest of Australia at 12:30pm.

See <http://www.musiccountusin.org.au/> for more information.

This is a wonderful event that celebrates music and develops the links between Toormina High School and our local primary schools.

Bev Babbage - Music Teacher



MATHS VISIT

School Director, Jenny Murray, and State Senior Support Consultant for Improving Literacy and Numeracy, Helen Evans, visited the mathematics classrooms to see the implementation of the National Partnerships – Numeracy program at Toormina High School.

Ms Murray and Ms Evans were impressed with our program which is aimed at improving the students automatic recall of number facts and the professional development of teachers.

Craig Holden - Head Teacher Maths

Photo above shows Jenny Murray with Charlie Towells and Josh Sagaris.

PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Dear Parents,

We are very pleased to have our school being spruced up for 2014. The Library carpet has been replaced after a roof leak, the junior toilets will be completed during November, the rest of C Block will be reopened after the new roofing was installed and the ensuing asbestos findings. As well, ramps, another disabled toilet in the Library, possibly a lift and some increased shade protection will be installed for the enrolment of students with significant mobility issues.

The Canteen is also scheduled to be refitted and brought up to standard for the beginning of the new year. We have been allocated some increased funds for 2014 and we look forward to improved school funding flexibility. We are looking to enrol some students from Afghanistan soon in a new English as a Second Language (ESL) program and we are very pleased to welcome them into our school. The new Deputy Principal to replace Simon McKinney (as if anyone could) will be appointed on merit by a school panel. We should have this process completed at the beginning of December.

Best wishes,
Liz Donnan

GROOVEMASTER

THS year 9 student, Kieran Lopes, recently appeared in the Advocate newspaper as part of his jazz trio 'Reed Up'.

Along with Tom Tuohy on tenor sax, the trio is made up of Kieran on alto sax and the two young musician's mentor, Mei Wei Lim, on piano.

Both boys have been awarded scholarships with Mei and consistently obtain honours in their theory and practical exams.



CELTIC THUNDER

On Monday 28 October, Year 8 students were provided with a visual and hands on experience of life, clothing and weapons of the medieval period. This backed up the studies the students have done in History.

On behalf of Year 8, I would like to thank Mr Ray Ellington and Mr Colin Phillips of Celtic Thunder for thier show.

Steve Elsley - Head Teacher HSIE





AIME and The Other Election



Another successful AIME (Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience) program was finalised on October 25 with a Graduation Ceremony for the Year 12 students complete with gowns and caps. All 12 high schools from our area attended the ceremony at the Education Campus. 85 % of students who complete the AIME program achieve their HSC.

During 2013 AIME held 'The Other Election' which saw students present a speech as an Indigenous Prime Ministerial candidate. This competition had 4 finalists from the Coffs Coast finish in the top 100 and Toormina High's Kaitlin Reeves finish 4th in Australia. Congratulations Kaitlin!

MOVIE STARS

During Week 3 THS was kept busy re-shooting the School Video. This video showcases our school and will be shown at local primary schools, on our website and on the television in our Front Office. The video will be completed by the new year. Professional cameraman Micheal Golsby is pictured filming a science experiment with Jarrod Lemming. Thank you to all students and staff involved.

FLEET REVIEW

Picture shows THS student, Brenton Knight, middle top row, with the other finalists from around the country at the Ceremonial International Fleet Review in Sydney last month.





LILLIE COMPETING AT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Lillie Moye is off to the National All Schools Championships after placing 2nd in the U17 Heptathlon, 1st U16 400m Hurdle, 3rd U16 Triple Jump and 4th U16 Long Jump at State level.

Good Luck Lillie!

Simon Bilsborough - CHS Sport
Organiser

PLANT FAIR

THS Support Unit
Thursday, Nov 7
10am - 2pm

*Coffee & Cake
available
All welcome!*

Dear Parents/Carers

From Monday 11th November all students will be doing exams in years 7 to 10. Year 9 and 10 students will be sitting their core subject exams in the hall. An exam timetable has been placed on the school website and Moodle. Year 7 and 8 students will sit their exams in class.

WE would encourage you to support your child in preparing for these exams through revising their work. Developing exam techniques will go a long way towards academic success, particularly in the senior years of schooling.

Erica Lyne - Deputy Principal

DENTAL HEALTH CARE FOR ADOLESCENCE

The adolescence (ages between 10 - 18) period is a transitional stage from childhood to adulthood, from milk teeth to adult teeth having a distinctive need when it comes to dental health due to:

- A potentially high decay rate due to inattention to oral hygiene procedures
- Gum problems due to changes in hormones
- Change in dietary habit and tendency for poor nutritional habits
- An increased aesthetic desire and awareness
- Potential use of tobacco, alcohol etc.
- Changes in physiological, social and psychological needs

DENTAL HEALTHCARE REQUIREMENTS

- Brushing teeth twice a day
- Flossing teeth daily
- Reduce intake & frequency of acid-containing drinks & sugary foods
- Regular dental check ups

All school students under 18 years of age are entitled to free dental care.

All you need is a current Medicare card - to register please call 1300 651 625

Please inform the school office if any of your contact details have changed - including your emergency contact phone numbers.

Any unwanted school uniform items would be gratefully appreciated by Ms Mullan, Head Teacher Welfare and can be left at the school office.