

NEWS LETTER

TERM 4 | WEEK 2 | OCTOBER 2015



Environmental Trust GARDEN GRANT



The Support Unit's garden has been slowly taking shape over the past few months. The NSW Environmental Trust Garden Grant which the unit secured for 2015 has been used to create two massive garden beds. The students have shifted 8 cubic metres of soil, a mammoth task! A big thank you goes out to Andy Robb and family and Joe Pope for spending many hours constructing the timber beds. These two beds have been established with the high needs, wheelchair bound students in mind.

Our first harvest has been turmeric. A massive 15 kilos was found of golden and yellow varieties.



The photo top left is Nathan Anthony and Aidan Van Houts watering the garden. Houn Gilmore is pictured with resident 'scarecrow', Bruce, and photo on left shows Daniel Ryan, Ben Thorn and Liam Sims hard at work filling the beds with soil.

Louise Evans - Support Unit Teacher

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Congratulations musicians & Mr McGeary on an amazing concert last term!!



Links to Learning Term 2 & 3

Congratulations to the following students Kailah Johnson, Tiffany Seymour, Jannaya Burnett, Brooke Juratowitch, Breeanne Gittins, Holly Isaac, Krystal Camp, Tiffany Smith, Mikayla Lobb, Tahlia Dolling, Brooke Edwards, Isabella Gear, Kelsey McGrane and Tarah Johnson who have recently graduated from the Links to Learning program hosted by Coffs Coast Community College. The 8 week program saw a group of year 9 and 10 girls participate in various workshops across the term including Rock and Water, First Aid, barista skills, henna and circus classes. They have completed a Certificate I in Skills for Vocational Pathways and Certificate I in Access to Vocational Pathways. The program is aimed to develop student's communication and technology skills; increasing self-confidence and self-esteem; setting positive goals and developing future work skills. The girls are provided with learning opportunities aimed at improving their education, employment and life skills.

Matt Francis - Transition Adviser



ATTENTION PARENTS !!!!

When responding to absence texts you must reply with a justifiable reason otherwise students absence will be marked unjustified.

Thank you, Jenny Parker, Roll Office



GOOD SPORTS

THS students (left) received certificates from Toormina Public School for their assistance at their sports carnival.

Below is an email from TPS teacher, Helen Trist, to Toormina High PDHPE teacher, Simon Bilsborough.

I just wanted to thank you and the Year 10 students for helping us with our K-2 Games and Sports Carnival. The students were very polite, cooperative and a great help. All the teachers participating were grateful of their presence.

SRC FUNDRAISER



Taitum Browne, presents the cheque to Coffs Harbour Mayor, **Denise Knight**.

PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Welcome to Term 4 2015 and an especially warm welcome to the many new students and parents who will join the THS community in 2016. This term transition 'taster' lessons will see students from across our local community of schools attending Toormina High to participate in lessons in a range of different subjects including English, Drama, Science, Art, Music and PDHPE. There will also be additional transition opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, students entering our Year 7 extension class and for those entering our support unit. On Tuesday 26th October we will be hosting a Year 6 into 7 Information Evening for parents and students where they can find out about what students will be learning, how to support their child as they enter high school and the facilities and resources available through the school. I look forward to meeting our future Year 7 cohort and working closely with their parents as we continue to build on the wonderful outcomes we achieve at Toormina High School.

Dr J Bellette
Relieving Principal



The SRC held a sausage sizzle last term to raise funds for a local environmental organisation. SURG (the Solitary Islands Underwater Research Group) received a cheque for \$400 from the school due to the generosity of students and staff. The president of SURG, Ms Nicola Fraser, and the Coffs Harbour Mayor, Mrs Denise Knight, accepted the cheque from students during an assembly last term.

Tanya Cheers - SRC Co-ordinator

WALKING FOR RESEARCH

THS teacher, Penny Grace, and her daughter Amanda Casey, a year 8 student at THS, have entered the Cancer Council NSW Seven Bridges Walk on Sunday 25 October 2015. They will be walking 27km around Sydney Harbour to raise money for cancer research. To donate, you can view Penny's personal fundraising page and click 'GIVE NOW'.
<https://sevenbridgeswalk2015.everydayhero.com/au/penelope-2>



NOW HIRING

Casting call to be held
**Tuesday 20th
October**

SAWTELL

Time: 6.30pm Place: Majestic Cinemas Nambucca Heads

Bring : Resume, certificates, short HAND WRITTEN cover letter telling us about your favourite movie and which character you'd like to play in it.

Senior and Junior positions on offer - Shifts available day/night, 7 days

go to www.majesticcinemas.com.au for more information

We are looking for highly motivated, film loving, charismatic people, who thrive in a busy environment and are ready to provide the best customer service to the people of the Mid North coast. Doors are locked at 6.45pm, no further applicants will be taken after this time. The Casting Call process has multiple stages where applicants are selected to progress to the next stage only if they meet the required criteria, such as team work, self confidence, leadership and initiative. Successful applicants may be onsite until 10pm. Unsuccessful applicants may not be required past 7.30pm.

Southern Cross University Students take classes at Toormina High School



During the term break, the Toormina High School Industrial Arts department continued its close association with Southern Cross University.

A group of 19 students undertaking the Bachelor of Technology Education course attended the school to undertake training in metal skills. The course is to introduce aspiring teachers to teaching metals skills in a classroom (workshop) setting. We have been delivering the course now for the last 3 years, which has enabled the faculty to keep up to date with current thinking in the metal skills area. The students undertook a variety of projects; a fitting job of a 'bar clamp', a turning job of a 'plumb bob' and a sheet metal 'tool caddy'. Near the end of the course the final project was a small hobby vice, encompassing a collection skills learned with the previous projects. These projects not only give the students an opportunity to learn skills, but also allow them to take away samples for when they are appointed to their own schools.

Reports back from the university state that the students were pleased with the course and the projects made. They were equally impressed with the school and facilities.

Greg Driscoll, Head Teacher TAS (relieving)

REMINDER TO ALL STUDENTS!!!

**HOMEWORK CENTRE IS OPEN EVERY THURSDAY, 3.30PM - 5PM, THS LIBRARY in
TERM 4.** Extra day will be available in 2016 if needed.

This is a wonderful asset and a great opportunity for students to receive extra tuition from teachers from a range of faculties, for further information, phone Gaye Devoy, 66533077.

Skoolbag is a FREE app for your smartphone, ipad or tablet which allows you to receive alerts and information instantly from our school.

We are encouraging everyone to please install Skoolbag. This is an easy, cost effective means of communication for THS. Simple instructions are on the THS website or contact us for help on 66533077.

P&C

Hi and welcome to term 4 (already!!)

The Uniform Shop has plenty of our everyday/sports uniform in stock. I am hoping that the warm weather will see everyone in full uniform again. You all looked so terrific. Winter was a bit difficult due to us not having the right stock but that has been sorted so no excuses next winter!!

At the meeting held last term we had only 4 P&C members attend. Due to this we were unable to hold a formal meeting. We need a minimum of 5 parents to form a quorum. This means we couldn't address issues raised by parents, couldn't pay sports assistance requests and we couldn't hear Dr Bellette's Principal report.

Our next P&C meeting is Wednesday, October 2, 5:30pm in the THS Staffroom. If, at that meeting we still do not have enough interested people, we will be in the very real position of losing our P&C.

Please think about attending a meeting. It doesn't have to be every month but we need your support to keep going. If the P&C does fold, we as parents, lose the invaluable ability to have a say in our child's school: we won't have a committee to fundraise which means no financial help with sport, there will be no funding for buses for rewards trips and it will mean we as parents won't have a representative on selection panels for staffing positions. These are just a few of the consequences.

To put things into perspective, if one parent per family attended one meeting during the entire 6 years of your child's time at Toormina High School, we wouldn't be in this situation. That means just one meeting out of the possible fifty meetings. Please consider giving up an hour to support THS P&C so we can continue to support your child.

Please contact me should you wish to discuss this further.

Regards

Michele Bake 0468 436 217

Year 11 Queensland University Trip note and deposit (\$60) due 21 October, see Mrs West in the Careers Office for more information.

Bongil Bongil Community of Schools **MUSICALE AUDITIONS**

VOCAL Auditions - Monday, October 12, THS Music Rooms 3:30 - 5:30pm

Callback - Tuesday, October 13, 3:30 - 5:30pm

DANCE Auditions - Monday, October 19, THS Hall, 3:30 - 5:30pm

Callback - Monday, October 26, 3:30 - 5:30pm

DRAMA Auditions - Tuesday, October 20, THS Drama Portable, 3:30 - 5:30pm

GYMNASTICS/CLOWN/POI/OTHER Auditions - Tuesday, October 27, THS Drama Portable, 3:30 - 5:30pm

MUSICIANS/BAND Auditions - Monday, November 2, THS Music Rooms, 3:30 - 5:30pm

Callback Tuesday, November 3, 3:30 - 5:30pm

SAVE THE DATE INFORMATION EVENING 2016 YEAR 7 STUDENTS

An information evening for parents/carers of the incoming 2016 Year 7 cohort will be held in the Toormina High School Library on Tues 27th October 2015, from 6-7pm.

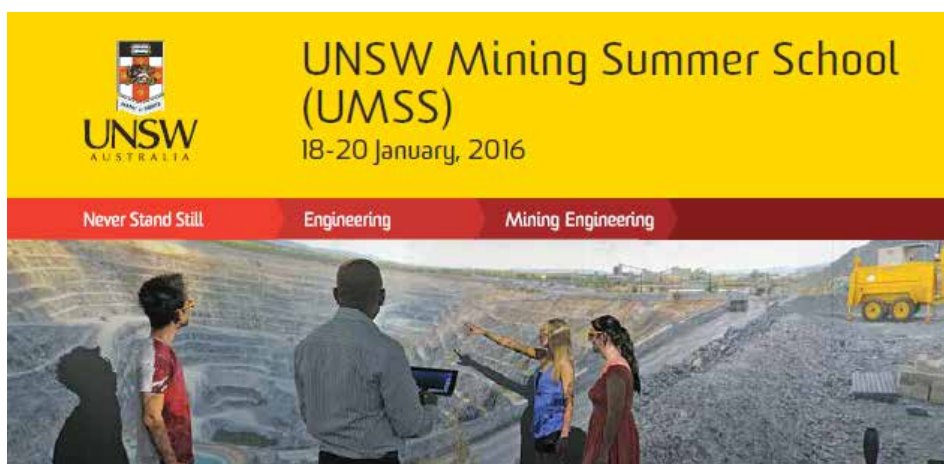
Many matters relating to the smooth transition of your child from primary school to high school will be discussed. There will also be an expo showcasing many groups involved with the school including the P&C, uniform shop, canteen, scripture and other groups.

We hope to see you there!

DONATIONS NEEDED for Support Unit Coffee Shop

VINTAGE tablecloths, doillies, table runners etc. (anything floral or lacey) would be much appreciated.

Amanda Clifford
Coffee Shop Co-ordinator



Unique opportunity to get inside the Mining Industry as part of the 3 day residential UNSW Mining Summer School (UMSS). Learn about study, careers, lifestyles and opportunities in the Australian minerals industry from professionals, current students and recent graduates.

Start at the UNSW campus in Sydney to experience university life including lectures, labs & our 3D virtual reality mine simulator. Then travel to Lithgow and the Central West of NSW for 2 nights to visit underground & surface mines.

Learn how coal and minerals are extracted and processed and network with experienced academics and current UNSW mining students and have fun with an awesome bunch of new friends with similar interests.

When: Monday 18 - Wednesday 20 January, 2016

Eligibility: Students currently in Year 10 or 11, interested in science or engineering and studying/planning to study subjects such as physics, mathematics (advanced) and engineering.

Cost: \$200

Closing date: 31 October, 2015

More info: unsw.to/summer-school

Contact Us

T 61 2 9385 5006 E mining@unsw.edu.au W mining.unsw.edu.au

FB [MiningEngineeringUNSW](https://www.facebook.com/MiningEngineeringUNSW) or see Mrs West in the THS Careers Office

SIGN UP NOW FOR CREST!

Now that students have begun to settle into their Term 4 routine I would like to encourage our new 2016 year 12 students to consider joining CREST Senior Mentoring to get the best out of this important year. Many students have already seen me and signed up, however, there is still some room on the mentoring roster so if your son or daughter has been considering this please encourage them to see Mrs Roberts soon to avoid disappointment.

Mentoring sessions are flexible and designed around the learning needs of each student. This is a free service providing face to face mentoring during school time and online, so be sure to take advantage of it and get a great start to your HSC year.

Julie Roberts, HT- Teaching & Learning

IMPORTANT DATES

MON	12/10	Year 12	Higher School Certificate Examinations
	- 4/11		
MON	12/10		MUSICALE Auditions
	- 2/11		
WED	21/10		P&C Meeting 5:30pm Staffroom
MON	26/10		Vaccinations
THURS	29/10		Support Unit COFFEE SHOP All Welcome! 10am - 2pm

THE ZOMBIES ARE COMING



ZOMBIE WALK

THROUGH COFFS HARBOUR
AND AFTER PARTY

LIVE MUSIC | OUTDOOR CINEMA
HE DANCED IVY | SCREENING NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD



31st OCTOBER 2015

\$10 PER PERSON
\$20 FAMILY PASS*

FOR MORE INFO:
[FACEBOOK.COM/EVENTS/488447474668751](https://www.facebook.com/events/488447474668751)



ZOMBIE WALK:
Start at Coffs Racing Club
Begins at 3pm

AFTER PARTY:
Venue: Coffs Racing Club
Party ends at 9.30pm

* Family pass offer can only be used for a group of 2 adults and 2 children under 14 years.



CRANES
Community Support Programs



FAMILY RELATIONSHIP SKILLS PROGRAM



Who's in Charge?

FREE COURSE for PARENTS

Specifically for parents whose teen or pre-teen's behaviour is aggressive and out-of-control

Where:- Toormina Primary School, Cavanba Rd Toormina

Date:- (4 days) 20th, 27th Oct & 3rd, 10th November 2015

Time:- 9.30am – 12.30pm (light refreshment provided)

To register phone CRANES on 6642 7257 or
email admin@cranes.org.au

FREE CHILDCARE AVAILABLE – Bookings Essential

KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE

It is the law that people who work with your children must have a 'Working with Children' check.



www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au

How to verify a WWC online

To verify, follow these simple steps:

- STEP 1** Ask the person who works with your child for their surname, date of birth and WWCC or APP number.
- STEP 2** Go to www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/check and click on this blue button:
- STEP 3** Under Verify, click the Individuals (e.g. parents) Verify button.
- STEP 4** Complete the form, including the reason why you are checking the person (e.g. sports coach, dance teacher etc)
- STEP 5** Click **Submit**.
- STEP 5** You will receive the outcome by email.



What should I look for when choosing a safe program for my child?

It's always good to become familiar with the places where your children spend time. A Working With Children Check is important but its only one part of what should be done to make a place 'child safe'. When choosing a service or program for your child it's important to ask questions of those in charge so they can tell you what they do to keep kids safe.

For example, do staff have the right qualifications and training? What type of training, ongoing support and advice do workers receive about creating a child safe environment? Does the organisation involve the parents and children in the decisions that affect them? How does the organisation respond if there is a complaint or allegation?

It's also important to ask your children about their experiences and let them know you are interested in what they do. Talk about safe behaviours and teach them to talk to you so they can tell you if they ever feel scared, worried, upset or uncomfortable.

Some questions that may help to start the conversation include:

- ◆ What do you like most about the service?
- ◆ What don't you like?
- ◆ Does anybody make you feel happy?
- ◆ Does anybody make you feel sad?
- ◆ What makes you feel safe?
- ◆ What makes you feel scared?

To find out more about child safe organisations go to:

www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/childsafes
or contact us on (02) 8219 3600