

# NEWS LETTER

TERM 3 | WEEK 10 | SEPTEMBER 2016



## TOP 4 IN NSW!



Our Year 9/10 Debating Team beat the selective Sefton High School in the quarter final of the Premier's Debating Competition recently to advance to the semi-finals which means they are in the top four teams in the state!

Congratulations to Sally Johnson, our English & Drama teacher who has prepared this team of enthusiastic and gifted debaters: Ella Burgun, Danielle Tate, Oriana Watts and Ryan Gilchrist. Well done - go public education!



## Congratulations Nara!

Congratulations Nara Donovan on her Highly Commended, 2016 Aboriginal Student of the Year! Nara is a wonderful representative of Toormina High School!

Andrew Fraser, local State Member, presented Nara with her award last week at our assembly.

**CONGRATULATIONS** also to THS Year 12 student, Cameron Pollard, who played in the 2016 Sawtell Golf Club Championships, over 4 days to become the Junior Champion.

Also to staff member, Kenny Higgins, who played very well in the Senior Championship!



## THS Principal



Mr Paul Humphrey

I am pleased to announce that Mr Paul Humphrey has been appointed as Principal of Toormina High School and will commence duties on 27 January 2017.

I congratulate Mr Humphrey on this appointment. He brings a breadth and depth of teaching and leadership experience and is looking forward to commencing his position.

I would like to take this opportunity of acknowledging the outstanding work that Dr Joanne Bellette has done as Relieving and Acting Principal since Term 1 of 2015. Dr Bellette has managed the school with professionalism and integrity. She has led several very positive initiatives to improve learning and wellbeing for students. Dr Bellette has led with a strong sense of school and community partnership. I thank her for her hard work and dedication to the school. I also thank all members of the school community for your support and commitment over this period and know that you will warmly welcome Mr Humphrey when he commences in 2017.

Jenny Murray  
Director, Public Schools NSW  
Coffs Harbour Network

## Boys Outdoor Learning Program at THS

This term we have welcomed two new team members to the BOLT program. Mr Rod Margetts and Mr Daryl Lockwood are now on-board with the now experienced Rick Black to compliment the teams' repertoire. This term's experiences have included hiking to Triple Peak, tree-climbing, abseiling, mountain biking and also kayaking and sea-kayaking. Some students were challenged and surprised at the complexities of paddling whitewater kayaks and even had a crack at trying to eskimo-roll these tricky boats. Above all, the staff have enjoyed being witness to our Toormina boys developing positive relationships, self-esteem, resilience and skills in what is described, even by the program's leader Mr Andy Robb, as being very challenging.



Check out the new THS Facebook page!  
Look for our school logo



**DONATIONS OF UNWANTED THS UNIFORMS** WILL BE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED BY SUE WINSOR Head Teacher Welfare



## Disability Expo

Toormina High School hosted its third Disability Expo on 9th September. This year we saw 23 Service providers attend our Disability Expo and approximately 50 parents, teachers and students. Many people, including visitors from other high schools in the region took advantage of the post school options information supplied.

I would like to thank Karina Allen (SASS Staff) for her assistance on the day as well as Tamika Beard and Ilesha Horsburgh (Peer Support students). Thank you also to Mr Scott Gale and his year 11 Hospitality class for the wonderful coffee and chocolate chip muffins. All involved said that the event was extremely successful this year.

Robyn West, Careers Adviser

## UNIFORM SHOP

OPEN EVERY MONDAY during term,  
8am-4pm

Enquiries Karina 0468 436 217

**Please notify the THS office on 66 533 077 if any of your contact details change: address, phone number, mobile phone numbers, email address.**

**ALSO please notify if your EMERGENCY CONTACT PERSON CHANGES OR THEIR PHONE NUMBER CHANGES.**

ALSO if you would like us to email a newsletter to someone eg. grandparents etc. please let us know.

# NEWS LETTER

TERM 3 | WEEK 10 | SEPTEMBER 2016



CREATING OUR FUTURE



**Amazing CAPA Showcase**  
So much talent in the creative & performing arts on display last week!



## Parent Masterclass – Study Skills

Guest presenters: Elevate



### Parent learning opportunity

You are invited to attend a Parent Study Skills Masterclass that will be held on the afternoon of September 21 at 4:30 pm. This session is designed to help parents support their child in managing their time, staying motivated and prioritising work.

**Date:** Wednesday 21 September, 2016

**Time:** 4:30 – 5:30pm

**Topic:** **Parent Study Skills Evening**

This workshop intends to provide parents with the skills to best support their children in implementing effective study skills, and enable productive conversations about time management, motivation and minimizing distractions. Aurora College will be introducing student sessions on study skills techniques and strategies, and would like to reinforce these strategies by involving our parents to ensure the biggest impact. Parents can learn techniques to help their children effectively manage their time, prioritise different types of work, and stay motivated.

**Cost:** Nil

**Location:** Online via Adobe Connect. A weblink to the Adobe room will be emailed to all participants prior to the event.

**Registration:** To register your interest in attending, please contact me at Louise.m.swanson@det.nsw.edu.au or contact the Aurora College office.

**This workshop will be held in  
the THS Library.**

### About Elevate

Elevate works with schools around Australia to introduce study skills programs to achieve behavioural change amongst students with an aim to improve student performance. The emphasis of the Elevate programs are for students to not only understand the skills and concepts taught, but to actually apply them. Elevate provides seminars for students as well as digital resources to support learning after the event. Programs provided by Elevate include issues such as dealing with stress, identifying areas for improvement, study techniques, developing study routines and summarizing.

**Year 9 Electronics** have been making Ipod docks in Electronics this term. This involved identifying the components and soldering them onto the printed circuit boards. Students had to design their own housing for the project using "Adobe Illustrator" and our Epilog Laser cutter and engraver. Some of the students were able to produce some really innovative designs, whilst others opted for a more contemporary look. They were really happy with their results and couldn't wait to take them home.

Greg Driscoll  
Relieving Head Teacher TAS



## Coffs Harbour Garden Club Spring Competition



Photo shows one of the judges in the THS Support Unit vegetable garden.

Staff and students of the THS Support Unit were excited to have their vegetable garden judged in two sections of this year's Coffs Harbour Garden Club Spring Competition in the school section. The judges expressed the 'wow' factor upon seeing our growing garden area. The garden has also been attracting positive attention from most staff who enter the school from the western entrance to our school.

The produce from our garden is used in dishes served at our Coffee Shop and in weekly TAS cooking lessons with our very talented teacher, Ms Zegers, who brings all of her expertise as a chef into the Support Unit.

While the garden has been around for some time now, the expansion and revamp has been the result and brainchild of Mrs Evans who applied for and won a sustainability grant. Hard work by all staff and students, including some mainstream students who came to lend a hand and by Mrs Evans partner, Joe, has made a huge difference to the success of the whole project.

A huge thanks to the support staff of the unit who support the students to keep the whole area in shape, watered and constantly improving. We will keep you posted when the Garden Competition results are in!

Andy Robb, Support Unit Teacher

## Toormina High School

On the THS website in the NEWS section you will find instructions on how to install our **FREE Skoolbag app**. This app allows us to be able to send you instant alerts and the newsletter can also be sent this way. We would like all parents & carers to have this on their phone as it is an extremely efficient means of communication in emergencies.

Also, please like and share our **Facebook** page (it has our school logo) as this is where we celebrate the many amazing achievements in our school and public education!

Our **THS Website** we would like to be your 'go to' resource for practical information and dates (please let us know if there is something you would like to see on there!).

## IMPORTANT DATES

<b>TUES</b>	<b>20/9</b>	<b>Year 12</b>	<b>FAREWELL ASSEMBLY 10am FORMAL DINNER 6-9:30pm</b>
<b>WED</b>	<b>21/9</b>		<b>REWARDS EXCURSION Dreamworld</b>
<b>WED</b>	<b>21/9</b>		<b>P&amp;C Meeting ALL WELCOME! 5:30-7:00pm</b>
<b>THURS</b>	<b>22/9</b>		<b>My Voice, My Ability, My Rights</b>
<b>THURS</b>	<b>22/9</b>		<b>Defence Force Recruiting Talk 11:30 - 12pm</b>
<b>FRI</b>	<b>23/9</b>		<b>LAST DAY TERM 3</b>
<b>MON</b>	<b>10/10</b>		<b>FIRST DAY TERM 4 All students!</b>



**CIY.CLUB**  
CODE IT YOURSELF

School Holiday Program for Kids

**MINECRAFT MODDING CAMP**

Learn to code with Minecraft! Programming is power, get a headstart in life by developing invaluable skills in coding with Minecraft. Our camp sessions will show you how to use Java to control a Minecraft server, build mods and design your own games. (Age 8-17)

**WHEN:**  
Wednesday 5th October, 9am – 3pm

**WHERE:**  
Toormina Community Centre,  
Lot 5, Toormina Road, Toormina NSW 2452

School Holiday Programs for Kids

**GAME CODING CAMPS**

Learn the basics of computer coding and game creation. We teach you how to make your very first computer game. In just one day you will be able to put together your own custom game including graphics and basic coding to make it interactive. You can take your game home and continue to develop it or join CIY.Club and continue to develop your game with the assistance of coding experts.

**3D PRINTING & DESIGN CAMPS**

Learn the basics of three dimensional design. We show you how to move and stretch shapes into bigger more complex objects. With a few tricks and tips, you will be creating amazing 3D things in just one day. See a 3D Printer in action! You will take home a 3D printed object. Join CIY.Club to explore 3D printing and its real life applications.

**WHEN:**  
Game Coding Camp  
Tuesday 27th Sept & 4th Oct, 9am – 3pm  
3D Printing & Design Camp  
Wednesday 28th Sept, 9am – 3pm

**WHERE:**  
Toormina Community Centre,  
Lot 5, Toormina Road, Toormina NSW 2452

**BOOK NOW** Go to [www.CIY.Club/events](http://www.CIY.Club/events) and search **COFFS HARBOUR NSW** in the event finder below the map to find your events. For more information contact Tanya Griffin via M. 0432 702 336 or E. [tanya@scopelTeducation.com.au](mailto:tanya@scopelTeducation.com.au)





Year 11 Design and Technology were tasked with designing a young person's play item. A snap shot of their hard work is included here.

Well done to the students who prepared some outstanding work: Jessica Biddoph, soft animal, Travis Lee, toddler's trike, Innocent Mbuto, board game, Hayden Milne, skateboard, Jackson Petrie, tractor Davis Schutt, chess board, Charlie Towells, skateboard. Phil Ward, TAS Teacher

**Year 10 students who are advancing into year 11 at Toormina High School in 2017 are being offered a specialised leadership and group bonding camp. This camp is run by the nationally recognised and award winning organisation, "Outward Bound."**



The proposed camp is to be held in Tweed Heads departing Toormina High School on Monday the 20th February and returning on Friday the 24th. Students will experience a range of activities.

- Mountain biking
- Canoeing/Rafting
- Navigating
- Team building and leadership activities

More information on the facilities and programs can be found on the Outward Bound website: [www.outwardbound.org.au](http://www.outwardbound.org.au)

The students will also have shopping time at Pacific Fair on the return trip. Travel will be by bus.

The cost of this excursion will be \$620 per student inclusive of all camp and travel costs but excludes meals during travel to and from the camp.

Payments may be made in regular instalments.

## Principal's Column

What an incredible term it has been!

Congratulations to all those students who were invited to attend the Rewards Excursion to Dreamworld. This year we are taking our largest student cohort and it is bound to be a fantastic day if past years are anything to judge by. Congratulations also to our winning debaters who are now NSW state semi-finalists and will be competing against Sydney Girls for a place in the finals. Particular mention must be made of Ms Sally Johnson and the amazing work she has done to reinvigorate debating at Toormina High School. In only two years she has cajoled, coached and mentored our junior debaters from inexperienced participants into a polished team of performers. Well done Ms Johnson!

Of course this week marks an important milestone in the lives of our Year 12 students as they bid farewell to their high school education and look toward a future full of possibilities and promise. I'm sure I speak on behalf of all of the staff at Toormina High School when I say how proud we are of our Year 12 students and wish them all the best in the future.

Finally, it is my great pleasure to announce that our new Principal Mr Paul Humphrey will commence at Toormina High School in 2017. Paul brings with him a wealth of experience including expertise in technology, engaging students across the curriculum and building positive partnerships within the school community. Paul has many years of experience as Deputy Principal and Relieving Principal at Colyton High School in Sydney and will be relocating with his family to the Coffs Harbour area over the summer holidays.

Dr Joanne Bellette  
Relieving Principal