“Light out of Darkness”

newsletter

QUALITY EDUCATION SINCE 1938

Term 3 — 2015/06

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

COFFS HARBOUR HIGH CELEBRATES YEAR 12, 2015

L-R: Year Adviser: Ms Jenny Pearce, Principal: Ms Patti Kearns, Indigenous Achievement Award: Takisha Bale, University of Newcastle Scholarship: Tiffany Skewes, Caltex All-Rounder: Grace Crawley, Principal’s Award: Emma Knight, ADF Long Tan Award for Teamwork and Leadership: Gabe Ellicott.
In my final address to students yesterday, I acknowledged the Year 12 cohort of 2015 for their intellectual curiosity, their willingness to pursue challenging HSC courses and their passion and compassion.

All graduating students received a copy of a book published by fellow HSC student, Nawid Ali which traced his perilous journey to Australia as a refugee from Afghanistan.

Student achievements in HSC courses, debating, national ICT competitions, sport and leadership, were celebrated.

Amongst the recipients of major awards were Tiffany Skewes who came first in Extension 1 and 2 Mathematics as well as Chemistry and Biology and will put her study to good use with a Scholarship to the University of Newcastle where she will enrol in Pharmacy.

While undertaking HSC studies Takisha Bale successfully completed a school-based traineeship with the Aboriginal Lands Council and held a leadership role in Army cadets. She has previously received a Future Leaders scholarship, a Coffs Harbour Council NAIDOC award and today was recognised for outstanding achievement by an Aboriginal student.

Vice-Captain Gabe Ellicott, recipient of the prestigious ADF Long Tan award, was a student representative throughout high school, a high achieving athlete and a wonderful ambassador for the school welcoming guests such as His Excellency the Honourable General David Hurley to our school.

Fellow Vice Captain Grace Crawley, showed excellent academic, sporting and leadership qualities during six years of high school. She participated in the Headstart program at Southern Cross University and has already achieved early entry into the sought after Midwifery degree. As well as studying for her HSC, Grace is preparing to compete in the World Titles of Dance Aerobics in the Caribbean.

The Principal’s Award acknowledged an exceptional student Emma Knight for “academic leadership and sustained excellence across the Humanities, Mathematics and Creative Arts.” Emma achieved first place in Advanced English, Extension English, Extension History, Mathematics and Visual Arts.

Congratulations Year 12.

Patti Kearns
With the accession of Malcolm Turnbull to the Office of Prime Minister, the NSW P&C Federation is hopeful that the new government will take this opportunity to review some of the previous decisions that put the Abbott Government in its current malaise.

Starting with honouring the promises made at the last election and immediately committing to the full implementation of the Gonski reforms, including the crucial later years, would place this government ahead at the outset.

The future of Australia should be ‘agile’, ‘innovative’ and ‘creative’, words spoken by our new Prime Minister. In order to achieve this aspiration, P&C Federation calls for fair and adequate funding of education to be a priority of the Government.

The Coffs Harbour High School P&C urges you to continue to voice your concern to our local member Luke Harsuyker and remind him about the importance of the Gonski funding model.

Well here we are nearly at the pointy end of the year! Firstly Coffs Harbour High School P&C would like to wish Year 12 students good luck with their HSC exams. Thank you to Mrs Pearce and all the Year 12 teachers for their tireless efforts in helping them reach this point.

CANTEN AND UNIFORM SHOP

Unfortunately due to price rises from our suppliers we have had to review our uniform and canteen price lists. Uniform costs from Term 4 will be as follows:

Boys shirts $30.00; girls blouses $30.00; skirts $43.00; sports shorts $25.00, polo shirts $33.00 and grey shorts $35.00. The new canteen price list will be published in the next newsletter and displayed in the canteen.

A reminder to parents and students that the canteen and uniform shop are cash only and do not have EFTPOS available.

The vast majority of our fundraising comes from our canteen. Our amazing canteen staff, Michelle, Tracey, Deanna and Maryanne, is always looking for volunteers to help during their busy days. If you are a parent, guardian or other family member who is able to spare some time please call them on 6652 4637. We appreciate the help of the many people who already volunteer.

MEETINGS

We are always pleased to see new parents, carers and family members at our meetings held in the Library at 7.00 pm on the first Monday of the month during school terms. It is an excellent opportunity to be part of your child's school and learn about the day to day running of the school, positive achievements and other relevant issues. A special invitation is extended to parents of Year 6 students enrolled for 2016 to attend our next meeting on Monday 2nd November. It would be great to get to know you before the new school year commences.

Paul Covington
PRESIDENT/PUBLICITY OFFICER
Ms Steward (Deputy Principal Years 7, 9 and 11) and I occasionally use this section to remind parents of some school rules so that you can reinforce these with your children and assist the school to maintain a safe educational environment. One rule worth revisiting is the use of mobile phones in the school. The amount of information that students can find on their devices is immense, however not every learning situation requires students to research. As a result we have a rule that students keep their phones in their bags during class time, unless a teacher has indicated a particular reason to use them (maybe as a calculator, dictionary or to find out information). This allows students to learn from their teachers without the distraction of text messages, phone calls, facebook messages, etc. We remind students that many workplaces do not allow employees to be on the phone all day, so it is important to develop the skills of appropriate use at suitable times. We appreciate your support in this regard.

We finish the term by saying farewell to our Year 12 students. Many of these students have attended Coffs Harbour High School from Year 7, and they have developed very strong friendships over that time. They have developed into fine young people. The students will begin their HSC exams on Monday 12th October and we wish them success in this challenge and all the best for their futures.

Term 4 continues with a busy schedule. During the term Year 8 will sit the VALID test; a state-wide Department of Education Science test which replaces the ESSA test. Science teachers will assist students through a practice exam so that they are aware of the format. This test assists the school in identifying the achievements and the learning needs of Science students. Year 11 students begin their studies towards the Higher School Certificate, although some of them will experience learning from a different perspective when they travel to Heron Island in Week 7 of the term. Similarly, Year 10 students will have the experience of visiting Tallebudgera for their end of year excursion. Both of these major excursions are important in assisting students to develop their friendships which are so important as they tackle the challenges of the HSC.

I wish all students a good break and look forward to seeing you all in Term 4.

Tony Wilson

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**WHY SCREENTIME BEFORE BED IS BAD FOR CHILDREN**

Copy and paste this link into your browser.

Dear Jetty High,

I would like to thank you for your positive impact on my life. You are awesome people at a great school. I see so many of you who love the job, after five, 10, 20 and 30 years and been inspired over and over since I first arrived in NSW two years ago. Your dedication and hard work to make the students smarter, stronger, and dare I say, a bit more civilized, will always be ‘worth it’. For those Science, PD/H/PE, HSIE and Maths staff who answered my endless stream of questions, I thank you for sharing your wisdom, ideas and resources with me, allowing me to develop as a teacher.

The decision to move back to Canada was not an easy one, since it meant leaving paradise (and possibly not coming back this time!). Although sunny Queensland was good for a tan and Adelaide had delicious wine, our time on the Banana Coast was brilliant and easily the best. Kacy and I are excited to continue this great adventure called life a little closer to family this time surrounded by beef cattle and wheat in the little prairie town of Olds, Alberta on the Eastern edge of the Rocky Mountains. Today, I landed a job at the local high school teaching Science (just Science this time... whew!), and the new school year starts on Monday, so I'm feeling pretty lucky! I don't know what I'll do without the ocean nearby, without Gehrke to make fun of, and without Hundle to make fun of me, but I'll get by somehow!

Don't forget to look me up if you ever make it across the Pacific. We'll go skiing and ice fishing, then we'll eat pierogies and chop wood and drink maple syrup by the gallon!

Cheers

Mr T
CHLOE SECCOMBE

“We are honoured to be your incoming captains for Coffs Harbour High School for 2015/16.

We greatly appreciate the school community for selecting the prefect body and we are privileged to have the opportunity to lead this school as captains. We would like to congratulate the vice captains, Georgia Bonser and Billy Collier, as well as the rest of the incoming prefects. We really look forward to working with them throughout the year.

We would like to thank the 2015 Captains, Chelsea Rose and Alex Spiteri-Albon, as well as last year’s prefect team for their dedication and hard work towards the school; they have shown us what it takes to fulfill the role of prefects and have left us many high standards to meet. We would like to thank them sincerely for making our cherished school a better place.

For 2016 we aim to increase school pride; such as caring for the school environment, participation in sport carnivals, socials and academic opportunities. We aim to accept everyone, despite race, religion or background and want to show that Coffs Harbour High School is for all students. We would also like to form stronger connections between year groups and have juniors and seniors integrated in various ways. As a team we want to work together and achieve the best possible outcome for school and the many years that will follow.”

DARCY TURNER

“We love this school; the seagulls, the sea views and the warm, salty afternoons. We love this school.

For five years, Coffs Harbour High School has been our home. Through its passionate teachers and caring environment, we have been shaped into the people we are today here before you.

We are grateful to have been given numerous opportunities over the last four and a bit years in the form of academic competitions and challenges, sporting events and pathways, as well as cultural experiences. Acculturation – there’s some syllabus lingo for you Mr Hardie-Porter.

We are grateful to stand here on Gumbaynggirr land, grateful to be a part of a multi-cultural and diverse public high school where any student can attend no matter how much money their parents make or which religion they practise.

We would like to thank Mrs Richardson and Year 11 for being there with us since the beginning. As the 2016 prefect body, we are proud to take on Year 12 and the HSC beside you.

To this school, we bring trust, responsibility and enthusiasm. Each and every one of this incoming prefect team is proud to stand here and represent you.

Every one of us is here for you, to lead, to encourage and most importantly to listen.

Before you is a genuine and cohesive team full of passion and an enthusiasm to give back to the school that shaped us into the people that we are now – here before you.
This school has taught us:

- to be committed to our endeavours;
- to cooperate with our peers;
- to be courteous to our guests and teachers; and
- to be caring for one another.

We have high hopes for 2016 – hopes for participation, making the most of opportunities for taking pride in our school and its environment and for acceptance of every student.

On behalf of Chloe, myself and this dedicated prefect team; we would like to let you know that we are approachable, enthusiastic and accepting.

‘We will stay faithful and true to the school on the hill.’

Yarri yarang.”

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NEWLY ELECTED SCHOOL CAPTAINS

L-R: Vice Captains Billy Collier and Georgia Bonser
Captains Chloe Seccombe and Darcy Turner
Coffs Harbour High School newly elected SRC for 2015/2016

Back row L-R: Darcy Turner (Captain), Billy Collier (Vice Captain)
Hunter Smith, Hugh Davey, William Dan, Finn Appleton
Front row L-R: Chloe Seccombe (Captain), Georgia Bonser (Vice Captain)
Mia Rigoni, Danielle Polack, Kodie Vandenberg, Skye Rattenbury

TYALLA PRIMARY SCHOOL ‘COMMENORATIVE PAVERS’

Tyalla Primary School is honouring past and present students and families by offering to have a paver inscribed with your family’s name, laid at the school. Pavers are offered as follows:

OFFER 1: $30  Individual Paver
OFFER 2: $75  Double Paver
OFFER 3: $100 Triple Paver
OFFER 4: $120 Four Paver

If your family previously attended Tyalla Primary School and you would like to purchase a paver we are seeking expressions of interest. Please call Tyalla on 66524488
For Alex Spiteri-Albon, Chelsea Rose, Gabe Ellicott, Grace Crawley, Dylan Thompson, Tiffany Skewes, Angus Field, Brooke Alchin, Myles Bowden, Shardia Raymond and Courteney Treadwell 2015 was a big year. As the Coffs Harbour High School Prefect body for 2015, these students have proudly represented the school on many occasions and carried out numerous responsibilities within the school to a high standard, while continually conducting themselves as excellent role models and young leaders.

Captains Chelsea Rose and Alex Spiteri-Albon and Vice Captains Gabe Ellicott and Grace Crawley, started the year by farewelling the 2014 Class at their Graduation Assembly and assisted in hosting their formal.

We had the privilege of hosting His Excellency General, The Honourable David Hurley, Governor of New South Wales and his wife Mrs Hurley. His Excellency discussed a wide range of topics with the students including student leadership; intensive English classes, school based traineeships, and showed great interest in our Confucius classroom. They were also treated to a performance of “Solid Rock” by the Garlambirla Youth Theatre. His Excellency and Mrs Hurley were so impressed they invited the Garlambirla Cast to Government House and also attended a full performance of the play at the Australian Theatre for Young People.

Throughout the year the Prefect body has hosted many visitors to the school, including the Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation, Mr Victor Dominello. The Minister was visiting the school opening a presentation run by the Department of Fair Trading for students in Years 10, 11 and 12 about the potential hazards associated with buying their first car. The Minister was accompanied by Member for Coffs Harbour, Mr Andrew Fraser; Mr Rod Stow, Fair Trading Commissioner; and Mr Andrew Gavrielatos, Assistant Commissioner Fair Trading, who were also touring our local area.

We also had the opportunity to host Chinese delegates at our school, who were extremely impressed by our Confucius classroom and the many talented students who study Chinese as a language.

Dylan Thompson, Tiffany Skewes and Angus Field, represented the school at the local Remembrance Day Ceremony. Along with other students and SRC members, the Prefects represented the school at this year’s ANZAC Day Ceremony, and participated in the annual march. Additionally, the Prefects were responsible for presenting the ANZAC Assembly. A very special year, the ANZAC Centenary.

The prefect body played a major role in supporting local fundraisers. Vice Captains Grace Crawley and Gabe Ellicott participated in a relay from Coffs Harbour Police Station to the Jetty in honour of 100 years of Women in the Police Force. The relay used a custom made baton which had toured the State for six months, its tour ending here in Coffs Harbour. The event recognised the contributions that women have made to the force and their communities.

Female members of the Prefect body were granted the opportunity to attend the Business and Professional Women’s (BPW’s) 2015 Candle-lighting ceremony and a special breakfast to celebrate International Women’s Day. They liaised with many successful and inspiring women of the Coffs business community and were enlightened by various topics of discussion. They were also able to meet with the guest speaker Erin Chew, the Young BPW Director for Business and Professional Women Australia.


Over the course of our time here, this school has given us so much, so many opportunities and fond memories. We hope that over the last year, in our role as prefects, we have been able to give something back to the school we are so proud of and cherish so much. It has been a growing experience for all of us, allowing us to grow and develop to a state where we are confident and eager for the next chapter of our lives.

We wish the class of 2016, and the new prefects, the best of luck.
The highlight for Chinese students in Term 3 has been the Language Perfect NSW Championships, which were held over one week from 31st August to 7th September. Language Perfect is an online language learning platform and the competition was open to all NSW schools with students enrolled on the platform. Here at Coffs Harbour, our two Year 9 and one Year 10 elective classes are enrolled.

This year, our students really punched above their weight, competing against large, private schools as well as selective high schools. Despite our small size, Coffs Harbour managed to finish third in the State for all schools studying Chinese, and our average score per student was second highest in the State. Individually, we had three students finish in the top 20 for students of Chinese: Bronte Flanagan finished 14th, Dylan Taylor finished 3rd, and Erin Vitnell-Phillips came in 1st. In order to gain the points for a first-place finish, Erin answered more than 17,000 questions over the course of the week; truly a mammoth achievement! All of our elective students put in an effort, which was reflected by our having six students in the top 50 for the State. A truly amazing effort from everyone. Well done!

In other news, the bilingual signs will be installed around the school over the coming holidays. This will be a visual prompt for all students of Chinese and will ensure a Chinese ‘presence’ all over the school. It will also mean that our numerous Chinese visitors each year will now be able to find their way around! The first visitors to appreciate this will be a group from the Confucius Institute who will be visiting in mid Term 4.

For the students travelling to China next year, a note with a payment plan has gone out. The plan involves a deposit to be made this term, followed by monthly payments in Term 4 and next year. Year 9 students have had a sneak peek at the hotels we will be staying at and excitement is already mounting! Please contact Mr Dun if there are any questions.

David Dun
CHINESE TEACHER
School Captains Chelsea Rose and Alex Spiteri-Albon recently attended The Secondary School Leadership Program for School Captains. The program is run by NSW Parliament, with the event being held at NSW Parliament House and Government House in Sydney. Student leaders from across the State were given the opportunity to participate in a forum with several members of State Parliament regarding the topic of leadership, community participation and political career opportunities; observe a sitting of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council; visit Government House and the surrounding grounds, via guided tour; and take part in a Q&A with His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley, Governor of New South Wales.

Among the parliamentary members present was Mr Andrew Fraser, MP, Member for Coffs Harbour. Mr Fraser gave students from local schools within his electorate, including ourselves; a bonus ‘all access’ guided tour of NSW Parliament House. Governor Hurley answered many questions from students in a friendly and candid manner, providing many insights into his role as Governor and systems of government within a constitutional monarchy. It was quite inspirational to hear how many of the politicians careers developed, often from ‘non-political’ occupations like teaching and nursing, driven to politics to pursue an issue important to themselves and their community.

Overall, the day was very informative and inspiring. Government House being uniquely grand and very historic, it was a wonderful opportunity.

Alex Spiteri-Albon
SENIOR CAPA PERFORMANCE NIGHT AND EXHIBITION

On 27th August the CAPA Department hosted a wonderful evening displaying the many talents of our Year 12 Visual Arts, Visual Design, Music and Photography students. The Music students played two of their four HSC pieces to help get them ready for the HSC markers who came two weeks later. The Visual Arts students along with the Visual Design and Photography students held an exhibition of their HSC Body of Works. These included creative sculptures, oil paintings, drawings, digital works and textile examples. The Year 11 Hospitality students provided a delicious supper at interval. The evening was very successful with the school hall overflowing with an appreciative audience.

I would like to congratulate all those students on their excellent achievements and wish them all the best for their HSC.

Jan Chivas
HEAD TEACHER CAPA

HSC VISUAL ARTS BODY OF WORK
CAPA FACULTY

HSC VISUAL ARTS BODY OF WORKS

Jarra Vlasto

Eliza Parkes

Jessie Harrison

Lily Shaw

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CAPA FACULTY

HSC VISUAL ARTS BODY OF WORK

Rachael Fear

Madeleine Reynolds

Emma Knight

Jayna Easson
CAPA FACULTY

SENIOR CAPA PERFORMANCE NIGHT

Savannah Hobson
Shaneen Hatry
Kodie Vandenberg

Haydon Freeman

Angus Field and Mr Smith

Tom Capell-Hattam
CAPA FACULTY

YEAR 12 VISUAL DESIGN AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Kerissa Austin
Brodey Ford
Tahni Armstrong
Jarrod Ferrar-Pappalardo
Casey Smith
Taleah Duncombe
Dana York
Jaymin Hyland-Taylor
ESL CLASS AG FARM

The students enrolled in our Intensive ESL program have had the opportunity to challenge themselves in a diverse range of subjects in 2015. In addition to studying the core subjects of English, Maths, Science and HSIE, they are also exposed to Music, Art, Woodwork and Agriculture. Integration of knowledge across these subjects has been an important part of the ESL program with courses designed around language acquisition in the context of academia and daily life.

Friday afternoons at the Coffs Harbour High Agriculture Farm have been a welcome break from classroom learning for our students with language backgrounds other than English. It is a place for the students to apply classroom learning and language skills in a cooperative environment whilst growing food to take home. Students work in pairs and are allocated a plot. Using their maths skills, students map out their plots and plan their plantings according to the size and position of their plots. They are given choices on what they would like to grow and are shown how to prepare the soil for their chosen crops. Challenging weather conditions, hungry migratory ducks and a gate left open to the sheep caused setbacks and disappointment in the first two school terms, but perseverance has paid off. Students have begun harvesting carrots, potatoes, silverbeet, beetroot, cabbage, onion, and will soon see tomatoes, capsicum and herbs grow and ripen. The enthusiasm and excitement the students show on their Ag Farm day is reflected in their well-organised, well-tended plots. Many of these students have never seen such fertile soil or had the opportunity to call a patch of land their own. They take great pride in their work and love to share the bounty of their harvest with each other and teachers.

Our class is grateful to the organisation of Ms Ion, the generosity of the Science Department for sharing space to plant seedlings, and the patience and understanding of our Ag Farm Manager, Mr Parish.

Justin Bullock
EAL/D TEACHER
KORORA PUBLIC SCHOOL
KINDERGARTEN EXPO

Students from Year 10 Food Technology were asked to cater for a morning tea recently at Korora Public School Kindergarten Expo. Normally a senior Hospitality event, the girls took on the challenge of catering for up to 100 people with great enthusiasm. They cooked a variety of finger food the day before the event. On the day of the event four students plated, garnished and served the food to the parents and children. It was a very successful event and the class received high praise from the school for their efforts.

L-R: Paige Thornber, Sarah Parry, Piper Bourke, Bronte Flanagan

Nerida McKee
TAS TEACHER
As a culmination to a long and time consuming process, Year 12 Industrial Technology - Timber students had their Major Projects and Design Folios marked on 24th August by the Board of Studies marking team.

Angus Field looks very pleased with his completed timber Malibu surfboard. He is to be commended for his effort to learn how to build a Paulownia surfboard and to complete this excellent project well before the due date. Early completion of his project allowed it to be tested and evaluated by a professional surfer.

Neil Jacob
TAS TEACHER
MID NORTH COAST ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

On 11th June over 90 Coffs Harbour High School students attended the Mid North Coast Athletics Carnival at the CEX Stadium. The students performed extremely well and won the School of the Carnival. Forty students were selected in the Mid North Coast team to attend the North Coast Athletics. As a school, we had fantastic results in the relays and a number of students performed well as individuals. A massive congratulations to all the students that attended on the day.

Nick Henry
PD/H/PE TEACHER

Back row: Zoe Campbell, Isobelle Muller, Jackalyn Pitman, Katelyn Eagles & Kate Hansen

Front row: Jasmine Murray, Tayla Nicol, Tegan Arnold and Tara Everson
CONGRATULATIONS SHAUN

Year 10 student, Shaun Cameron has been selected in the NSW State Team for Road Cycling to compete at the National Championships next month in Victoria.

Shaun has trained hard for this after a significant setback due to an eye injury which he suffered during a PE hockey class at school. This put him out of action for the team for Track Cycling.

Well done Shaun and we wish you all the success at the Nationals next month.
UNDER 16’S GIRLS FUTSAL TEAM SET TO PLAY AT AUSTRALASIAN CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

The Under 16 Girls’ Futsal team will fight it out with the best in Australasia after winning its way through the Northern NSW school titles only to come runners up to Bellingen High School in the final leg.

After winning several games by large scores, Coffs Harbour High had a tough semi-finals encounter against Taree and was behind 2-0 at half time. The girls displayed mental toughness to claw back to 2-2 by full time and force a penalty kick off for the match.

Natasha Clancy opened the account with a cracker of a kick scoring the first penalty shot for goal. Our goal keeper, Greta Smith saved the first penalty kick from Taree. Tamara Skinner then followed suit and kicked the next goal. We cycled through the entire five players on field without missing a shot, taking the win.

Coach Col Graham is proud of the girls’ achievements and is excited to take the girls to the next level in November playing in Queensland at the Australasian Champion of Champions. We have a strong side with all eight players coming from outdoor football backgrounds, most playing in the Women’s Premier League in the local NCF competition.

However most have only recently blossomed in the Futsal arena. With the combination of the experience of Natasha Clancy, who is a current and past Futsal representative player for NNSW and a current inclusion in the East Coast Eagles Open Women’s Team competing in the National Futsal League - combined with the enthusiasm and commitment of the rest of the squad, we are expected to perform strongly against the other Australasian representative teams.

We wish the girls and Mr Graham good luck for their up and coming tournament in November.

L-R: Tilly Lugg, Natasha Clancy, Tamara Skinner, Greta Smith, Ellie Slattery, Jasmyn Atkins and Paige Thornber
UNDER 16’S & 19’S BOYS FUTSAL TEAMS

The 16’s and 19’s Boys Futsal Teams played fantastically in the Champions of Champions Futsal Competition in Port Macquarie. Both teams fought their way to some great wins, with the 16’s qualifying for the Australasian Champions of Champions in Queensland later this year.

The 16’s started the day with a couple of comfortable wins before coming up against a red hot Camden Haven Team. They needed a win or draw to make it to the semi-finals. Things weren’t looking good at 3-1 down but the boys showed great resilience and stood up when it counted to snatch two late goals and a valuable draw. Up against an undefeated Port Macquarie High School team in the semi-finals the boys had a massive task ahead of them. An early goal had the boys looking good but Port proved to be too strong in the end going on to win the final. The third place finish means the boys are on their way to the Australian Championships tournament in November. Well done to Dylan Young, Samson Mite, Jack Kadwell, Peter McKenzie, Kai Onley, Jacob Riley-Hills, Liam Stocks, Marcus Woschitzka and Lachlan Burns.

The 19’s ran straight off the bus and into their first game of the day and the last time they will represent Coffs Harbour High School. Stiff legs and sleepy heads resulted in a rusty performance. The boys were moving a little smoother in their second game and showed promising signs in a tight loss to Taree High School. In their final performance for the school the boys were looking to restore some pride and with a tactical reshuffle everything started to click. The boys defeated Casino High School in a dominant performance and caused the upset of the day taking down an undefeated Camden Haven team in their last group game. The boys walked away with their heads held high after representing the school admirably. Well done to Harry Atherton, Austen Beal, Edward Neave, Lorenzo Rigoni, Habib Afan and Aidan Whish-Wilson.

Matt Valentine
PD/H/PE TEACHER
In August, 80 Year 9 students went on our annual excursion to Jindabyne and Mount Perisher. Well over half the students had never seen snow so it’s fair to say excitement levels, even at 9.30 pm on Saturday when we left, were very high!

There’s nothing like a 16 hour, overnight bus trip to diminish enthusiasm, or so you would think, but as always our students were as energetic and excited as ever when we reached Jindabyne late on Sunday afternoon. Once the shock of a winter June afternoon compared to a balmy Coffs Harbour climate sunk in, the kids explored the camp facilities, secured a bunk in their rooms and stocked up on their equipment for the week. The first night's dinner was full of optimistic talks about snow, skiing or snowboarding and the potential for amazing conditions in the morning.

A 5.30 am wakeup call on a -5° winter’s morning would normally be greeted with howls of protest. Not on this camp, students got up, dressed quickly and after a massive hot breakfast, set off for the snow. As the week progressed, instead of getting up later, most of the groups were actually up and about before their wake up call arrived!

On Monday morning at Blue Cow Station and it's fair to say that the howling winds and almost blizzard conditions were not exactly what we all hoped for but at least it was snowing, really snowing! After excited experiments and the odd wayward snowball the kids set off for their lessons. Every day would begin the same with a two hour instructor led lesson followed by warm lunch and then free time on the mountain.

Monday’s storm gave way to Tuesday's perfection with a massive dump of fresh snow, cloudless and windless conditions for the best skiing and boarding. The students made the most of these amazing conditions and honed their skills, pushed their comfort levels and really developed their confidence all day.

Wednesday was a mixed bag of perfection mixed with storms and the occasional howling gust in between. As ever, the conditions didn’t faze our group, who seemed impervious to cold and to the many many sore bums, wrists and knees that accompany so many falls. Many quickly learned that if you don’t fall, you’re not trying hard enough. Others developed a non-stop policy, as in, the only way I can stop is to fall over or wait until the slope eventually goes up and I slow down, or, I run into something bigger than I am (hmm, what about that cliff over there!).
Our last day came on the back of almost 60cm of fresh powder snow on a massive base. This was easily the best snow conditions I have ever seen in Europe, New Zealand and Australia. With the protection of soft fluffy powder to cushion falls and ease speed, students were able to really push hard to extend themselves. It’s fair to say that a day in these conditions was amazing and probably resulted in many, many snow converts (which can be a hard desire to feed up here in Coffs Harbour!).

Most of the students chose snowboarding with only a handful of skiers. The common bond was seeing how enthusiastic, supportive and determined our students are and how well they work together to push each other (sometimes literally!) to help each other out. Even after a very busy and energetic week of early starts, days and nights filled with activity and the confines of a ski lodge, mixed in with the odd bout of home-sickness, our students remained positive and supportive. It’s amazing to see just how capable this group is and how much they can cope with if given the challenge.

Most of the group used their free time on the slopes to explore the mountain and to test out newly developed skills, only coming in at the last minute, exhausted but smiling ear to ear. Some students succumbed to the cold and spent time exploring the various aspects of the lodge coffee shop (or Cafe T-bar as it came to be known) but everyone had lots of snow time, lots of adventures and lots of stories of crashes, prangs, stacks and the occasional out of control ‘epic fail’!

The trip ended with a long bus ride back to Coffs Harbour. If the trip down was full of anticipation and excitement the trip home was the exact opposite with lots of tired bodies using the trip to sleep, dream about snow and the slopes of Blue Cow and reflect on what was often called “the best week of my life”!

A huge thank you to the amazing teaching staff who gave up their time to support this amazing excursion. Mr Field, Mason and Taylor as well as Ms Neville, Gehrke and Margetts really made the camp that little bit more special. The staff on the camp is amongst the best trained, most supportive and professional people I have encountered on any excursion. Their work was so valuable. A huge thank you also to the parents and carers who helped in so many ways to allow their children to attend. The kids may forget to say it, but I know every single one of them had a ball and really appreciated being there.

Shaun Hardy
YEAR 9 ADVISER
SNOW EXCURSION
OPTIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK

YEAR 10

Year 10 students have the opportunity to complete an additional week of work experience between 23rd November to 4th December. Interested students will need to collect insurance paperwork from the Careers Office. Please note that if a student wishes to undertake a placement at a local primary school they are required to talk to Mrs Court about it. Please do not contact the primary schools directly.

QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY EXCURSION

3RD & 4TH DECEMBER

This is a two day regional school excursion that visits a selection of NSW/Gold Coast and Queensland based universities. Tours will be conducted at SCU on the Gold Coast, Griffith University, University of Queensland, as well as a number of smaller institutions. Invitations are open to all 2016 Year 12 students. Cost for the excursion is $140. Places are limited so students are encouraged to submit payment and permission slips as soon as possible.

SOUTHERN CROSS UNIVERSITY SENIOR SCHOOLS DAY

20TH OCTOBER

All 2016 Year 12 students are encouraged to attend the Senior Schools Day at Southern Cross University. The day is designed to showcase what university life and introduce key themes and concepts in relation to university study. Attendance is free and a bus will be operating from school on the day.

Permission notes are due back 14th October.

UNIVERSITY APPLICATIONS

This is a reminder to all students in Year 12 considering applying for university. On time online applications can be made via www.uac.edu.au (NSW institutes) or http://www.qtac.edu.au/ for Queensland institutes up until 30th September 2015. UAC applications cost $32 and QTAC applications cost $34. Applications made after this date will incur a late fee.

If any student has concerns or questions about the application process, please see Mrs Court as soon as possible. Parents and students are welcome to email Mrs Court at dionne.court@det.nsw.edu.au should they have any questions.
BIG W PROGRAM

Twenty three students from Years 9 and 10 have been given the opportunity to undertake five days of work experience at the two Big W stores in Coffs Harbour. Upon completion of the program, many students will be offered casual employment. Well done to those participating and all the best! Thank you to Big W for once again supporting our students and providing them with such valuable employability skills.

VOLUNTEERING

Congratulations to the group of community minded students who volunteered their time to raise valuable funds for the Cancer Council Daffodil Day held on 28th August and Legacy Badge Day held on 4th September. It is wonderful to see such passion for helping others in our community.

Dionne Court
CAREERS ADVISER
COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Invitation
Free Information Sessions

In Person – City
24/7 On
Demand
LIVE Online
(please turn over)

Coffs Harbour

Student Exchange Australia New Zealand holds over 100 free information evenings across Australia and New Zealand each year.

- Come and meet our staff
- Hear comprehensive information on all aspects of exchange
- Ask questions
- Listen to questions asked by other students and parents
- Meet other students who are considering going on exchange
- Discounts and Scholarships available!
- Both students and parents are all welcome to attend.

The Professional Centre
9 Park Avenue,
Coffs Harbour

Tuesday, 15th September

7.00pm

Feedback from students and parents who attended our information sessions:

- Very, very good, especially hearing from someone who has been on exchange. Really did cover everything." Catin (Brisbane)
- "Interesting. Makes you aware of the challenges." Tul (Canberra)
- "Very interesting. Clear and concise." Ellen (Perth)
- "Covered all bases." Mitchell (Hobart)

"My exchange has given me so much more confidence and a hunger for travel. I made amazing friends and had incredible experiences and would definitely recommend an exchange to anyone." Georgia Byers, Te Anaha College. New Zealand, Indigenous Scholarship, Canada Semester Program

"My whole experience so far has been absolutely amazing! 10 out of 10. I could not have been more fortunate. The people I’m surrounded by at school, my friends, my host family and just in general the people of Turin are very inviting and warming." Francesca Maslin, St Peter’s College, Gore, New Zealand, Indigenous Scholarship, Italy Semester Program

For more information please phone 1300 135 331
email info@studentexchange.org.au or
visit our website http://studentexchange.org.au/info-sessions

experience everything
MEDIA RELEASE

INDIGINEOUS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNER WILL APPEAR AT A FREE INFORMATION SESSION TO SHARE HER EXPERIENCES ABROAD WITH OTHER STUDENTS

Student Exchange Australia New Zealand is pleased to announce that Olivia Philp who was an Indigenous Award Scholarship recipient will be attending a free information session on Tuesday September 15th at 7.00pm at The Professional Centre, 9 Park Avenue, Coffs Harbour, to discuss her experience as an exchange student and to answer any questions that potential exchange students may have.

After applying for and becoming successful on her second attempt at the Indigenous Scholarship, Ms. Philp went on exchange for 6 months to Wichita Falls TX, United States of America and returned back to Coffs Harbour in January 2015.

Describing the experience as “life-changing”, Ms. Philp met the challenges of living overseas, making new friends, embracing a new culture and integrating into a new school environment very well and immersed herself into the experience wholeheartedly. In fact, Ms. Philp travelled back to the USA recently to attend the Prom.

Ms. Philp, who shares, “I couldn’t even explain how thankful I am to have been awarded the scholarship, as the exchange most certainly has changed my life and me personally also. It has given me so much motivation to do well in school and save up my earnings from my part time job so that I can go back again. I am so much more confident in myself, way more independent and I now know that when I put my mind to something, I am more than capable of achieving my goals”. Ms. Philp would like to emphasize what a positive experience she had whilst on exchange and how it has made her reflect and connect more deeply with her own culture and community.

Ms Philp will be on hand at the free Information session to share her experiences.

Student Exchange Australia New Zealand has recently created the new ‘Volunteer and Community Involvement Scholarships’, which recognises and rewards students who are actively contributing to their community and making a difference to the people around them. This brings the total number of scholarships awarded each year to 13. These include 3 Language Scholarships, 2 International Affairs Scholarships, 2 Indigenous Scholarships, 3 Digital Video Scholarships and 2 Volunteer and Community Involvement Scholarships. The next deadline for receipt of Scholarship applications is 31st October 2015.

For further information please visit our website www.studentexchange.org.au or contact Cara Spencer on 1300 135 331.

experience is everything
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T: (02) 9967 0700
F: (02) 9967 0701
W: www.studentexchange.org.au
abn 49 101 489 286

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COMMUNITY INFORMATION

FREE TRANSPORT PASSENGER APP

You can now view where our buses are by visiting the free app listed below.

App Link

Are you looking for qualifications that will take you places?

Are you taking a gap year?

TAFE have courses in Tourism, Hospitality and Events Management in 2016 that can give you the skills to work anywhere!

Want to work at the Commonwealth Games in 2017....complete a Certificate / Diploma with us and you are on your way. Course details on the NCITAFAE website or call 6659 3146
COMMUNITY INFORMATION

KIDS CAN CREATE THEIR OWN CRICKET MOMENT
PLAYCRICKET.COM.AU

Cricket is a sport for all and there’s more ways than ever for kids to experience the fun of cricket!