Thank you to our school community for your continuing strong support of Coffs Harbour High School. We strongly believe that you are making a wise choice for your child's education by sending them to their local public school. It is gratifying to see evidence of your confidence in us via our enrolment numbers, which have increased on what we were expecting. In spite of severe space restrictions imposed by our site and buildings, we have fortunately been able to accommodate all enrolments from within our zone. We have however been forced to refuse quite a lot of requests for enrolment from other areas.

Our 2015 HSC results have been a major cause for celebration. Congratulations to Dux Emma Knight, whose formidable ATAR of 97.5 will allow her to pursue her studies in Psychology at the University of Queensland with the confidence of knowing she will be among the very best students there.

Thomas Capell-Hattam, who scored a brilliant 49/50 in Extension 2 English, has headed off to the University of New South Wales to study Media and Communications. Grace Crawley has a Southern Cross University scholarship for Midwifery and Tiffany Skewes a University of Newcastle scholarship for Pharmacy. Other students have secured places for courses at Queensland University of Technology, Griffith University, Macquarie University, UNE, University of Canberra and University of Western Sydney.
It is so rewarding for the teaching staff here and for me personally, to see these young people achieving their goals and beginning their adult life with such promise for their future. We are proud to have helped them lay such firm foundations, and hope they will look back on their time here in the same spirit as Western Australian academic Dr Noelene Bloomfield (nee Watt, School Captain 1956), who says in the dedication of a book she recently donated to our school:-

To Coffs Harbour High School, my Alma Mater, which prepared me so well for my future career.

Only the students themselves can put in the effort that is essential for success, but there is no doubt that they generally do that more effectively when they have high-quality guidance. So I would also like to acknowledge the wonderful work many of our teachers do in the difficult task of preparing students for the HSC. This year we need especially to congratulate Mrs Paula Madigan, Head Teacher English, who scored a great trifecta: there were students in all three of her classes (Advanced English, Extension 1 English and Extension 2 English) who achieved the highest possible band. Mrs Lyn Bailey had outstanding results in Extension History, and Mr Ryan Hardie-Porter’s class performed well above the state average — a particularly gratifying result for someone who was teaching at HSC level for the first time. Society and Culture has become a popular choice in our school because students are recognising the value of the content and the skills learnt, but also the quality and passion of the delivery. The CAPA department is also celebrating great results for students in both Music and Visual Arts.

School Captain Darcy Turner was one of eight students chosen from across the whole state to represent school students at an Australia Day celebration in Sydney. Darcy specially appreciated Premier Mike Baird’s comments on the importance of multiculturalism for NSW, and was elated to have had a chance to speak with Mr Baird during the luncheon.
And finally, congratulations for an exceptional achievement in another important field: Tilly Lugg (Year 11) was an outstanding member of the North Coast team which won the State Open cricket competition. Following this success, Tilly has been named in the NSW Combined High Schools First XI team. In the words of the coach of the North Coast team, she was “integral in the role of opening bat, and a positive and delightful person to have in a team environment.” I wish her continued success.

These examples, and the many others you will read about in the rest of this newsletter, illustrate our continued commitment to providing your children with the best available opportunities to thrive in all the essential components of a sound education, whether, academic, social or sporting.

Patti Kearns
MEETINGS

Our next meeting is our AGM on Monday 7th March 2016. We welcome new members to our meetings held in the library at 7.00 pm on the first Monday of each month except during school holidays. Entry is now via the main office. Being involved with your P&C 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. P&C members are incredibly active in the school community. They have been invited to sit on panels to select staff, (including recently appointed Head Teacher Languages, Head Teacher Learning Support and Head Teacher Administration); and they are involved in school planning.

UNIFORMS

Thanks to Michelle and Sharon who worked tirelessly at the start of the year ordering new uniforms and running the uniform shop. We understand there have been some faults with some new lemon shirts, particularly ripping under the arms. If you have a faulty shirt purchased this year please return it to the canteen to be exchanged. If you have uniforms still in good condition that you no longer need, please leave them in the office for distribution by Head Teacher Welfare, Mr Hardie-Porter. Some of the old polo shirts no longer part of the new uniform have been identified for recycling to students in underprivileged schools overseas.

CANTEEN

The vast majority of our fundraising comes from our canteen. Our amazing canteen staff, Michelle, Tracey, Amanda and Maryanne, do a fantastic job week in, week out. They all do a great job in keeping students and staff fed and happy. The canteen relies heavily on volunteers. If you are a parent, carer or other family member who is able to spare some time please call the canteen on 6652 4637.

MENU

Gluten-free sausage rolls and pies are now available but must be pre-ordered in the morning. Shortly there will be a canteen audit to make sure we are keeping within the Healthy Canteens guidelines.

FROM THE P & C FEDERATION

2016 is going to be an important year for public education. As the Federal election moves closer, your P&C Federation will be focusing on making sure that support for the proper funding of education is a key issue in the minds of our politicians. You will be aware that the Federal Labor Party has now promised to fully fund the Gonski needs based funding reforms as well as reversing the cuts to public education from the now infamous 2104 Abbott/Hockey budget.
FROM THE P & C FEDERATION
(continued)

Education funding is too important to be a political football, so the P&C Federation is actively seeking to ensure that the Liberal/National government takes a similar position to the election. A strong public education system is the best investment we can make in our country's future. Every child deserves the opportunity to be their best, and the independently determined Gonski model is what our education system needs. Please look for opportunities to raise the importance of changing the government's mind at every opportunity.

The igiveagonski website has lots of information.

P&C FEDERATION ELECTIONS

Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of New South Wales 2016 election of Councillors and Delegates will be conducted by the New South Wales Electoral Commission.

Details can be found on their website at www.pandc.org.au.

Paul Covington
PRESIDENT/PUBLICITY OFFICER
Students and staff have had a very positive start to the year with active learning occurring around the school in our many different classrooms and settings. Many classes have been venturing out into the local environment and enjoying the fine weather in Geography, Marine Studies, Photography, Physical Education and Sport. We welcome a number of new staff and students who appear to be settling in well. Teachers report that they are generally pleased with the start to the year.

**Enrichment Opportunities**

We recognise that valuable learning occurs outside of the classroom as well as within and it is vital for students to feel connected and engaged with their school and community. We have expanded our enrichment program to include didge making and playing and dance for our Aboriginal students, gardening and landscaping for students in Years 9 and 10 supported by Coffs Community College, along with the Eye to the Future program which focuses on building work related skills and confidence.

We have allocated additional resources toward increasing opportunities for students to be physically active at school and with the addition of three new qualified staff able to coach and manage Rugby League and Rugby Union. We have renewed interest from students in try outs the last few weeks and look likely to field a number of teams. Students interested in Soccer and Basketball have been enjoying increased access to the hall during lunchtimes with our new supervision roster. Teams in these sports will be filled this term along with many other teams and groups which are supported by our diverse and talented staff. Students in our ESL support class have benefited from additional swimming lessons with Ms Munro and Mr Bullock, which will consolidate the skills learnt during the intensive lessons last year.

**Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices**

Students, who bring phones and electronic devices to school, do so at their own risk. We do not take any responsibility for theft or damage to these items at school. Our procedures are that all such devices should be turned off and remain out of sight unless they are being used as a part of a lesson with teacher permission. If they are used without permission and cause a problem in the classroom, teachers are within their right to confiscate the item and take it to the front office where is secured until the end of the day.

**Accidents**

We are a large school on a small site and while we endeavour to keep everyone safe, unfortunately sometimes accidents occur in classrooms or the playground. It is very important that students report any accidents and particularly any injuries which may have occurred so that we can take steps to look after the person, contact parents, ambulance if required, and address any safety issues.

**Communication**

Sometimes parents wonder who to contact in such a large school. In general, if you have enquiries about a specific subject, you should contact the Head Teacher for that area. If enquiries relate to general information or attendance and wellbeing, parents should contact the Year Adviser for their child's year group. Concerns, complaints or serious issues relating to children's wellbeing at school should be directed to the Deputy Principal or Principal. Our friendly and capable front office staff are also often able to answer many questions about the day-to-day organisation of the school.

Kathy Steward
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29(^{th}) February</td>
<td>Year 7 Immunisations and Year 8 catch-up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1(^{st}) March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: Mid North Coast Open Basketball Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: Mid North Coast Open Football Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7(^{th}) March</td>
<td>School Photos — Years 8 to 12 and Year 7 catch-up</td>
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<tr>
<td>7(^{th}) March</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting — 7.00 pm — school library</td>
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<tr>
<td>7(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: MNC 15’s &amp; Open Rugby League Trials</td>
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<tr>
<td>8(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: North Coast Swimming (Region)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: North Coast 15’s Touch Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11(^{th}) March</td>
<td>School Photo catch-up — Years 7 to 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: North Coast 15’s AFL Trials</td>
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<tr>
<td>11(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: Mid North Coast Rugby Union Trials</td>
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<tr>
<td>14(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Interviews ~ Years 8, 10, 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>15(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: North Coast Golf</td>
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<tr>
<td>15(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: Mid North Coast Netball Trials</td>
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<tr>
<td>16(^{th}) to 18(^{th}) March</td>
<td>The Great Aussie Bush Camp Excursion — Year 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>16(^{th}) to 18(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Visual Art Excursion to Sydney</td>
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<tr>
<td>17(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: North Coast Basketball Trials</td>
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<tr>
<td>18(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: North Coast Football Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: North Coast Canoeing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21(^{st}) to 31(^{st}) March</td>
<td>Year 12 half-yearly exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21(^{st}) March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: Mid North Coast Hockey</td>
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<tr>
<td>21(^{st}) March</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Interviews ~ Years 7, 9, 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22(^{nd}) March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: North Coast Rugby</td>
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</tbody>
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## IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: Mid North Coast Opens Touch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; March</td>
<td>Good Friday — Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; March</td>
<td>Easter Monday — Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>29&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; March - 8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
<td>Year 12 half yearly exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>29&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: North Coast Netball</td>
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<tr>
<td>31&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; March</td>
<td>Representative Sport: North Coast Rugby League</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; – 5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
<td>Representative Sport: NSW CHHS Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting — 7.00 pm — school library</td>
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<tr>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; &amp; 5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
<td>Representative Sport: NSWCHS Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
<td>Representative Sport: North Coast Hockey</td>
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<tr>
<td>7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
<td>Representative Sport: Mid North Coast Football Gala Day</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TERM 2</strong></td>
<td>All students return on Wednesday 27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Wednesday 27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April to Friday 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; July)</td>
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<tr>
<td>27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
<td>CHHS Cross Country</td>
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## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

![Judo Promotion Graphic]

Cherry Gardens PCYC is offering free judo lessons for the first 2 weeks of classes. Contact Cherry Gardens PCYC for more information. Classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday school terms. Phone: 0651 9961.
Joe Amery — Science

“Hello students, family and friends. I’ve joined the teaching team at CHHS from Outback Queensland, where I’ve been teaching for the past four years. I’m a Science and PDHPE teacher and I am already enjoying teaching students across a range of contexts from the school farm to Jetty Beach. I am passionate about engaging with students, particularly through school sport and extracurricular activities. I look forward to a great 2016.”

Raija Chapman — EALD

“I joined the EAL/D teaching team in Semester 2 last year, bringing several years of EAL/D, French and German language teaching experience to the role. I am passionate about language acquisition and my time living in other countries has given me some understanding of the challenge my students face in learning English. Our students work very hard every day to improve their English. They make the most of every opportunity and it’s so rewarding to see their confidence grow as they progress.”

Benjamin Cross — PDHPE

“I’m Mr Cross, I’ve returned from a year away in Germany playing Rugby League and working as a farmhand followed by a teaching stint in a Pupil Referral Unit in Cambridge, UK. You can find me in the PDHPE staffroom, pacing between classes or on the oval at lunch. I teach a variety of subjects across the school and am in charge of Wednesday afternoon sport. I look forward to getting to know all the new students.”

Sally Herdegen — TAS

“I have been appointed to teach in the wonderful TAS faculty for the first semester of this year. I am teaching junior textiles, food technology and Exploring Early Child Studies and on a senior level Hospitality and Design and Technology. Coffs Harbour High School’s executive body, staff and students have made me feel so welcome and my many questions have been warmly answered. The students in my classes are a credit to the school and their carers and I look forward to meeting some of the wider school community in our upcoming parent teacher nights.”
MEET OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Melinda Laverick — English

“My name is Melinda Laverick.

I have moved from Maitland where I was working at Rutherford High School to the beautiful Coffs Harbour. I am working in the English faculty and am looking forward to getting to know people within the community.”

Kai Lawson — English

"Hello, I’m Mr Lawson and I’m lucky enough to be an English educator this year at Coffs Harbour High School. Very eager to meet the wonderful students we have here, get to know you all and become involved in the school community."

Donna Stanmore — HSIE

“During my teaching career I have found that seeing children coming to the realisation that they can learn important life lessons from the past can be a highlight of the day. To me, showing students that gaining knowledge is important as it enables you to ask questions about the world around you is the greatest contribution a teacher can make. I am looking forward to the year and am very happy to be here.”

Julie Thurgood — HSIE

“Hi my name is Julie Thurgood and I am in the HSIE Faculty, teaching junior Geography and History and senior Legal Studies. I am the coordinator of the Environmental Resources Committee (ERC) at the school.”
I would like to welcome two new staff members to the English team – Ms Melinda Laverick and Mr Kai Lawson. They, along with the rest of the team, are looking forward to working with the students this year to build on their knowledge and skills. Please feel free to contact staff via a phone call or email to discuss any concerns during the year.

Debating and Public Speaking Teams are currently being finalised and we are also looking at offering workshops to support talented writers through the year.

**Congratulations to Darcy Turner, Year 12,** who was one of five state finalists for the Somerset College National Novella Competition. His story, entitled ‘Tombouctou - le vide de mon âme’, was an engaging piece inspired by his Gothic Studies in Extension 1 English in Year 11 under the guidance of his teacher, Ms Kristin Vlasto. Though he did not win the state award it is an outstanding effort. It is also very pleasing that a student from Coffs Harbour High School has made the state finals for the past two years.

What are students studying this term?

**Year 7** is studying “Who Am I?” which is a unit exploring biographies and autobiographies. Their assessment task will be to present a speech to their class a “Tall Tale” inspired by real events in their life. This will happen in the last two weeks of term and information will go home shortly.

**Year 8** is studying “My Island Home” which is an exploration of Australia with a particular focus on poetry. Students will have to recite an Australian Poem to their class as well as write an analysis paragraph on the poem as their assessment task later in the term.

**Year 9** are studying “The Hero’s Journey” and are reading novels and short stories as well as analyzing a film to develop an understanding of heroes and the stages of the hero’s journey. Their assessment task will be a creative writing piece and this will be completed in the last couple of weeks of the term.

**Year 10** is studying “What Will the Future Hold?” which is a unit exploring Science Fiction with an emphasis on Dystopian Texts. Their assessment task will be a creative writing piece.

**Year 7 – 10 Homework Tasks**

As well as the across form assessment task each term we do expect students to complete the Homework Task Sheet that has already gone home with students. There are a minimum of TWO tasks to be completed and handed in to their class teacher to mark. Students can do more tasks if they wish! The first task is usually due around Week 6 but each teacher will tell their class the exact date. The Homework Sheet will have a choice of tasks for students to choose from and the tasks will help consolidate their knowledge and skills in preparation for the assessment task.
Years 11 and 12

It is really important that students attend every lesson as the pace in Years 11 and 12 picks up. If they are away for any reason, students should make contact with their teacher and ask for the work they have missed. It is also very important that students read the novels and other texts that form the focus of study. This is particularly important for Year 12 where we encourage students to read their texts more than once.

If students do not have set homework from the teacher they should be making notes on their lessons, practising writing WHY paragraphs or doing some creative writing around their Area of Study – Journeys for Year 11 and Discovery for Year 12. Year 12 Advanced and Standard students should also be working on their Learning Journals.

Year 11 Advanced and Standard classes are studying Journeys as an Area of Study this term. They will be presenting a speech on the topic as their assessment task later in the term as well as sitting an exam early in Term Two.

Year 11 English Studies has proven to be a very popular course and it is now full. Any students who wish to move to Studies at some point in the future must see Mrs Madigan to put their name on a waiting list. If there is enough interest, we will look at forming another class. This group is currently studying a unit focused on developing skills for the workforce and life outside of school. It is very practical and will include resume writing and selling yourself at interviews.

Year 12 Advanced are currently studying Module A: Intertextual Connections through the analysis of ‘Pride and Prejudice’ by Jane Austen and ‘Letters to Alice on First Reading Jane Austen’ by Fay Weldon. They will be writing two essays under exam conditions as their assessment task at the end of the term during the Mid-Course Exams.

Year 12 Standard classes are working through Module A. Two classes are focusing on Distinctively Visual through an analysis of the film ‘Run Lola, Run’ and the other class is focusing on Distinctive Voices through the analysis of the film ‘One Night the Moon’. Students will be presenting a speech as their assessment task and this will occur during the Mid-Course Exam period.

Paula Madigan
HEAD TEACHER ENGLISH
ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN 2016

Since 2013 the English faculty have organised three very successful excursions to Sydney enabling students to experience the performance of some of our favourite Shakespearean plays at The Sydney Opera House. 2016 promises to be even better.

This year we are very excited to be offering two opportunities to experience world-class theatre performances by Bell Shakespeare.

Students in the junior school (Years 7, 8 & 9) will be offered the opportunity to travel to Sydney to see *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* on 3rd and 4th August. *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* is William Shakespeare’s classic romantic comedy. It’s a truly hilarious play and this production promises to be an exciting and highly physical performance uncovering comic confusion and meddling mischievousness.

In November (1st and 2nd) students in Years 10, 11 & 12 will have the chance to see *Othello*, one of William Shakespeare’s most famous and passionate tragedies. *Othello* is a violent exploration of the thin line that separates love and jealousy and is our set Shakespearean text in Year 11 Advanced English.

Both of these excursions will include Students’ Master classes the evening before the performance. These Master classes are presented by Bell Shakespeare’s talented and knowledgeable educators and have proven to be fun, active and wonderful enrichment opportunities. They are also invaluable in enhancing students’ appreciation of the performances the following day.

Both groups will travel to Sydney by coach and stay overnight at the fabulous Sydney Harbour YHA at The Rocks. There will be 50 places available on each excursion.

Planning for these excursions is still underway and details are being finalised. Notes will be distributed later this term so that families can plan ahead and work out a payment plan, if required. It is anticipated that the cost will be approximately $180.00.

So write the dates on your calendar and watch out for notes coming home over the next few weeks.

In the meantime, you can check out Bell Shakespeare’s website for more inspiration:


Deanne Ion
ORGANISING TEACHER
Bell Shakespeare Company performing “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”

Bell Shakespeare Company performing “Othello”
YEAR OF THE MONKEY

Welcome back to a new year of Chinese at Coffs Harbour High School. 9th February 2016 was the first day of the Chinese Year of the Monkey. Year 8 students have been learning about the Chinese zodiac and personality traits associated with the various animals. Monkeys are considered to be intelligent, flexible and fast learning, but also jealous, impetuous and arrogant. Traditionally, Monkey years are believed to bring bad luck to people with the Monkey sign, so you will need to be careful if you were born in 2004, 1992, 1980, 1968 or 1956!

The countdown has begun for this year's Year 10 China excursion at the end of Term 3. Students need to get a photocopy of the bio-data page in their passport to Mr Dun so that bookings can be finalised. The next step will be applying for Chinese visas and a note will go out shortly explaining the process. Please keep the monthly payments coming in and let Mr Dun know if there are any problems.

Another upcoming trip is the Buddha’s Birthday excursion on 29th April. Year 8 Chinese students have the opportunity to travel to Brisbane and take part in a series of cultural activities on the beautiful South Bank. This is a very popular excursion and places will be limited, so pencil the date into your diary and keep an eye out for future notices.

Wishing everyone a safe and prosperous Year of the Monkey.

David Dun
CHINESE TEACHER
The Coffs Harbour High School ESL program ended the 2015 school year on a high note with the success of our ‘Learn to Swim’ Program. All students of refugee backgrounds were invited to participate in a two week, intensive swim/surf program in Term 4. Living in a coastal environment we thought it was important for our students to feel comfortable in and around the water and to become aware of the dangers present in the ocean. Most of our students have come from non-swimming backgrounds, far away from the ocean with no previous swimming experience. Our goal was to introduce swimming and surfing to these students before the summer for their own safety and enjoyment.

The program saw 45 students between Years 7 and 12 learn to swim under the tutelage of four instructors at Coffs Aquatic Centre. The group’s enormous excitement was a thing to behold as the walls of the Centre practically reverberated with joyous bellows and laughter. It was immediately apparent to me that some had never set foot in a body of water and were taking those first tentative (and metaphorical) steps into a new world. To see those students who were quavering and hesitant on the first day transform into swimmers by the end of the program was amazing and wonderful. For most of us, the ability to swim comes from a young age and is something that we take for granted in this country of swimmers. For the refugee students, we hope to have given them a gift that will edify their lives in Australia and positively influence their communities.

Surfing and ocean awareness was also on the agenda with Friday afternoons designated for surf lessons at North Wall. With new confidence and skills gained at the pool, our students did well to have a go at the Hawaiian ‘Sport of Kings’. The girls’ group was an awesome sight to behold with many sporting their matching Burkini swim costumes and big smiles. The East Coast Surf School was employed to teach the basics and nearly everyone had success standing on a surfboard on their very first day. Being a lifelong surfer myself, I couldn’t help but recognise the contagious joy of the students on their first day of surfing. I was reminded of a quote by Captain James Cook as he first observed a Native Hawaiian surfing in 1778:

"I could not help concluding this man had the most supreme pleasure while he was driven so fast and so smoothly by the sea."

I wonder what Cook would have thought if he’d seen a laughing Afghani girl in a Burkini riding aloft the waves of Australia in 2016!

We look forward to repeating this valuable program in 2016 and have already started the Intensive English class off with a double PDHPE class at Jetty Beach where we teach ocean awareness, basic rescue techniques and safe swimming practices.

Justin Bullock
EALD TEACHER
ESL ‘LEARN TO SWIM’ PROGRAM
ESL 'LEARN TO SWIM' PROGRAM

[Images of children learning to swim and surf]

18 CHHS NEWSLETTER 2016/01
ESL ‘LEARN TO SWIM’ PROGRAM
“Get ready to come about’. ‘Crew ready’. 10 excited students scrambled quickly to the yachts other side as the 8m boom whips across in response to the sudden turn of the wheel. The Students with Disability sovereign boat ‘Kayle’ was in full flight. This racing yacht holds the record for the fastest time to circumnavigate Australia by a sailing craft and was steadily plowing along at 12 knots powered by a Nor Easter. ‘Ok Next Captain ready’ Murtaza makes his way precariously towards the large stainless wheel and stations himself in typical wide yacht steering stance. ‘Keep on the heading 42’. The student gazes steadily at the electronic readout located at the bottom of the boom moving and adjusting the wheel like a seasoned Sydney to Hobart veteran.

Coffs Harbour High School was lucky enough to be invited to be part of the Sailors with disABILITIES program for the first time in 2015. This sailing program is in its 21st year of operation and was conceived and funded by David Pescund and now runs year round affording students the opportunity of a lifetime. The yacht is manned by volunteer and paid staff who have in common both a love for sailing and wholehearted enjoyment of seeing excited smiles on students’ faces. Hopefully Coffs Harbour High School students will again be invited to participate in 2016.

‘Whale right’. On cue the huge mammal leaps out of the sea to do a spectacular 360° spin and come crashing down in an explosion of sea water.

Not all participants found the inconsistent rocking motion totally welcoming but all agreed that the sailing afternoon was a lifetime experience they will always remember.

Marek Paszkowski
LEARNING AND SUPPORT TEAM

L - R: Faridoon Khaksar, Murtaza Nadir Hussain and Javed Khaksar
COFFS HARBOUR HIGH SCHOOL
SWIMMING CARNIVAL AGE CHAMPIONS

Thank you to all students and staff who attended this year’s swimming carnival. Although it was a scorching day, many students participated in events and the salmon run. Due to the weather, students were able to get wet and complete the salmon run a couple of times during the day. Congratulations to all Age Champions and competitors who have made it through to the next level, Mid North Coast Zone Swimming Carnival held in Coffs Harbor on 26th February 2016. Good Luck!

Congratulations to the following students who came first in their age group.

**BOYS**
- 12 YEARS: Levi Bannerman
- 13 YEARS: Hunter Churchwell
- 14 YEARS: Zac Huls
- 15 YEARS: Oscar Churchwell
- 16 YEARS: Regan Arnold
- 17 YEARS & OVER: Kai Onley

**GIRLS**
- 12 YEARS: Jorja Welch
- 13 YEARS: Aisha Grace
- 14 YEARS: Tara Everson
- 15 YEARS: Bella Grace
- 16 YEARS: Hayley Millington
- 17 YEARS & OVER: Taylor Blay

**HOUSE POINT SCORES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Sapphire</td>
<td>390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Gallows</td>
<td>266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Emerald</td>
<td>236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Macauleys</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Coffs Harbour High School Swim Team will be competing at the North Coast Swimming Carnival to be held on Tuesday 8th March 2016 in Kempsey.
FAMILY DOUBLE SWIM CHAMPS

13 Years Age Champion
AISHA GRACE
and her big sister

15 Years Age Champion
BELLA GRACE

13 Years Age Champion
HUNTER CHURCHWELL
and his big brother

15 Years Age Champion
OSCAR CHURCHWELL
PDHPE FACULTY
# KEY DATES – TERMS 1 & 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Recommended Year Group</th>
<th>Additional Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 25th March</td>
<td>University Roadshow</td>
<td>11 and 12</td>
<td>Representatives from Charles Sturt University, Southern Cross University and University of New England (UNE) will be at our school to give an overview of university courses and campuses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 6th May</td>
<td>UNE Excursion</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>One day visit to Armidale to learn more about the university.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 9th May</td>
<td>WH&amp;S White Card for the Construction Industry</td>
<td>Students aged 14 and over</td>
<td>A compulsory one day course for any student wishing to complete work experience or employment in construction related industries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 20th June to</td>
<td>Year 10 Work Experience</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>One week compulsory work experience program for all students in Year 10. Students can start making arrangements for their placement as soon as possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 24th June</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

It is wonderful that so many Year 10 students are keen to find out more about work experience. This year the program will be conducted during the week Monday 20th June to Friday 24th June 2016.

As in past years, this program will prove most useful in giving students a broader appreciation of the world of work and also prepare them for the important decision making processes relating to their future careers.

Students will be required to find their own employment placements and to find their own methods of travel to and from work each day.

We must point out that students will have to comply with strict deadlines set down by the school for the return of all permission notes, documents and return of Student Placement Records; otherwise they will be excluded from the program and will have to attend school during the Work Experience week. A full package containing all documentation will be provided to students later in Term 1, however in the interim students are encouraged to start thinking about where they would like to undertake their placement and start enquiring with local employers.
Year 10 Work Experience (continued)

As parents, you have an important influence on student career planning. Please discuss the Work Experience job choice/s with your son or daughter and ensure they are being realistic in relation to their abilities, interests and the program. Students are encouraged to make appointments and ensure they present themselves adequately when approaching prospective employers.

In considering where your son/ daughter/ ward might like to undertake their work experience placement, please consider the following points:-

- During the Work Experience Program students are not to be paid by participating employers.

- Some students may apply for Out-of-Region Work Experience, however all placements are only permitted to be in NSW. It should not be assumed that all such placements will be accepted as approval will have to be sought from authorities outside and apart from our school.

- During Work Experience school uniform will not be required but clothing appropriate to the job should be worn. Some employers may require a name badge to be worn. Some employers may require Confidentiality Agreements to be completed and signed prior to student commencement for the week.

- Our school will not allow any student to actively participate in any job in the Building and Construction Industry without firstly providing documentary evidence to the school of completion of a mandatory WorkCover NSW approved 'WHS General Induction for Construction Work in NSW' course for the industry. The onus is legally on the employer not to direct anybody to undertake construction work until they are satisfied that the student has completed the above course for the Building and Construction Industry. Coffs Harbour High School will be running this course on Friday 22nd May at school. Cost is $120 per student and bookings can be made by contacting the Careers Office.

- Students can consider a placement with a range of employers. Each year we have students apply to places such as Taronga Zoo, UNSW Civil & Environmental Engineering department and the Defence force. Many out of area employers require an online application to be completed, and places tend to fill rapidly. It is recommended that places such as this be investigated as soon as possible directly with the employers.

- Upon completion of the work experience program students will be presented with a Certificate of Participation and a completed Feedback Form from the employer.

If there are any questions or concerns regarding this program or you would like the placement paperwork and kit early to secure a placement, please contact our Careers Adviser on 6652 3466. Additional information can also be obtained from the careers website at http://www.coffsharbourhighcareers.com/
THE SMITH FAMILY ITRACK PROGRAM

Coffs Harbour High School has an excellent relationship with The Smith Family. Once again we will be running the successful iTrack e-mentoring career program to selected students in Years 10 and 11. The aim of the program is to link students with mentors from the business world to increase their confidence and knowledge when making career decisions. If you feel your son/daughter would benefit from this program, please contact the Careers Adviser prior to 18th March. For additional information go to:-


TAX FILE NUMBERS

From 1st January 2015, The Australian Tax Office has changed the way in which students can apply for a Tax File Number. Students can no longer complete a form and submit it to the school. Instead they must apply online and then attend an interview at an Australian Post Office. This is the easiest way to apply for a TFN. There are three steps in the process:

i) Complete the online form. You can access the form at:-


ii) Print off the summary - after completing the form, you need to print off the application summary. You will need it for the next step.

iii) Attend an Australia Post interview - you must attend an interview at your local Australia Post outlet within 30 days of completing your online application. Bookings are not essential, but are recommended. You will need to take two things with you to your interview:-

   a) Your printed application summary; and

   b) Your "Proof of Identity" documents (see notes below about what is required for proof of identity).

Please note: The Post Office located next to the school is not an authorised outlet for the Tax File Number Interviews. All interview bookings must be placed with the outlet in Coffs Central by calling 13 13 18.

CAREERS
TVET

TAFE Vocational and Education and Training courses have commenced for many senior students at both the CHEC and Coffs Harbour campuses. Parents often have questions relating to TVET courses, and this information aims to answer many of these.

- **Campuses** - TAFE offers different courses at two campuses; CHEC and Glenreagh Street, Coffs Harbour.

- **Course delivery** - The majority of TVET courses are held on Wednesdays, however some full day courses are also delivered on Fridays. Should a student be enrolled in a Friday course, the school’s rolls office will be advised to eliminate absence issues at school. It is the student’s responsibility to talk to their school teachers to discuss options for completion of work missed whilst at TVET.

- **Attendance** - Attendance to the TVET course a student is enrolled in is compulsory for all lessons. Should a student not be able to attend any lesson they must contact their TAFE teacher via phone or email to advise in advance. Extended absences need also be advised to the school.

- **Transportation** - Transportation to and from TAFE campuses is the responsibility of students and parents. Bus transfer to TVET courses is not covered under the school transport system with local bus companies.

- **Communication** - TAFE regulations only permit that any written notifications of misadventures, unexplained absences, warning letters for non-completion of assessments and work placement are sent directly to the student not parents. However, copies of warning letters are also sent to the school for appropriate follow up with students and parents where necessary.

- **Work Placement** - Work Placement is a compulsory component of many TVET subjects. Failure to complete work placement where advice has been made can result in a student not passing the entire course, thus impacting greatly on HSC results. Please discuss with your child if work placement is compulsory for their course and encourage them to be proactive and diligent during their placement.

Should any parent have any questions about TVET, please do not hesitate to contact the Careers Adviser.
COFFS HARBOUR HIGH SCHOOL CAREERS

NOW HAS A FACEBOOK PAGE!!

- Step 1: Search for Coffs Harbour High School Careers on Facebook
- Step 2: Like it
- Step 3: Check out the updates as they come through

AND

as an added helpful tool

check out the

www.coffsharbourhighcareers.com

website for all things HSC and careers

Dionne Court
CAREERS ADVISER
WHO’S IN CHARGE?
A FREE GROUP FOR PARENTS

Does your teenager hurt, intimidate or abuse you? Do you feel you're losing control? Want to better handle conflict?

Who's In Charge? is a FREE 4-week program for parents or carers of young people (12 to 18) who are often violent and defiant, or making choices that are putting them & their family at risk.

March 16, 23 and 30 and April 6 2016
Wednesdays 9.30am - 12.30pm
Cavanbah Centre, 191 Harbour Drive
Coffs Harbour

The Who’s In Charge group aims to:
- Provide a supportive environment to share experiences and ideas
- Reduce the guilt and shame which most parents feel
- Offer ideas to help you develop strategies for managing adolescent behaviour
- Explore ways of increasing safety and well-being
- Help you feel more in control and less stressed

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND/OR TO REGISTER TO ATTEND PLEASE RING AND TALK TO IN IT TOGETHER YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICE, BEC WHITE ON 6651 1788 OR EMAIL becwhite@midcc.org.au. BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL. PLACES ARE LIMITED.

A light morning tea will be provided. (Unfortunately childcare cannot be provided)

until next time...