



## TOMAREE HIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

### Principal .....Sue Xenos

As the term is ending, I have been very pleased with the conduct and application to studies of the vast majority of our students. It must be remembered that while at times there are negative activities reported through social media, overall 99% of our students do the right thing, most of the time. I do not like to hear comments like 'oh, that's what happens at Tomaree'. When we don't defend those comments and accept them as true, then we are saying all students at Tomaree act poorly or bring the school into disrepute and that includes your child. This could not be further from the truth, as a quick look at Facebook will tell you. Great school, great students, great community.

Year 7 and 9 will be sitting NAPLAN next term. There has been a change to the way NAPLAN results in Year 9 will be used for the HSC. Last year students who achieved a Band 8 would qualify for the HSC. This year, that requirement is removed, however all students will need to sit a literacy and numeracy test (online) sometime in Year 10, 11, 12 if they wish to be awarded a HSC. There is a flyer further in this newsletter and all Year 9 students will be receiving an email to their education email address. Students now in year 10 will only have to sit a test if they did not achieve Band 8.

That is not to say that NAPLAN is less important. It just means it will be used for the purpose it was intended, to give information to the schools about where we need to focus our literacy and numeracy strategies. It is for this reason that I urge all students to take the tests seriously so we can determine more accurately where the support or remediation needs to be directed and if we can identify areas that need extension work as students are doing well.

We have had a greater number than expected return to Year 10 this year and therefore a new timetable was developed to add an additional class into Year 10. This certainly has relieved the pressure on those classes and allowed for smaller numbers in some classes. Year 7 numbers are slightly smaller and we considered cutting 1 class, but have made the decision that keeping the extra class and smaller numbers was a good use of school funds to support students in this first year at high school.

Parent Teacher night will be early next term-week 4 (though date to be confirmed due to some building works in the MPC). Bookings will be done this year through the Millennium Parent Portal. Last year, many parents were able to set up their logins. We will send out another email notice to set up a login. If you do not receive a notice or do not have an email address registered with the school, please send the school an email from the address you wish to use requesting Parent Portal access ([tomaree-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:tomaree-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)) I wish everyone a safe Easter break and then a safe and relaxing Term 1 break.

Sue Xenos  
Principal

### Important dates

#### March

27/3/18  
28/3/18

Easter Show Excursion  
Rugby League Trials  
P&C Annual General Meeting  
Hunter Open Touch Trials  
Easter Break

#### April

3/4/18

4/4/18

5/4/18

6/4/18

9/4/18

10/4/18

11/4/18

13/4/18

30/4/18

Bill Turner Cup U15's Soccer  
She Flies Drones Camp  
Hunter Hockey Trials  
She Flies Drones Camp  
Athletics Carnival  
Year 11 Farm Visit  
C.H.S Swimming  
B.P Oakvale Farm Excursion  
Year 11 Wetland Field Trip  
C.H.S Swimming  
Year 7 2019 information night  
U/15's C.H.S Girls Trials  
Last day Term 1  
Staff return Term 2

#### May

1/5/18

Students Return Term 2



## Deputy Principal .....Ms D'Arcy

A belated, yet warm welcome back to the 2018 school year. This year I am very fortunate to be the deputy principal of Years 7 and 10. I am delighted with the start to the new academic year made by our wonderful students.

**Year 10** have settled quickly into their new classes. Colleagues regularly pop into my office to let me know how engaged our students are in their learning. I am also seeing this as I visit lessons each day. Students have already received assessment tasks they should be working on. The marks will go towards their Year 10 Record of School Achievement (ROSA) grade. It is important students put their maximum effort and time into doing the best work possible. It is a marathon, not a sprint, so working consistently with high expectations is the way to success.

**Year 7** have made a fantastic start to High School! Visiting lessons and talking to colleagues I am getting a lot of positive feedback; they are a lovely year group. The highlight of the term so far has to have been taking 174 students to Year 7 camp. We had an amazing time! The way in which students worked together, encouraged and supported one another plus their exemplary behaviour showcased our three core expectations of Respect, Responsibility and Success. We have lots of scary and funny stories to share. If your child has any missing items of clothing or bedding they may be in my office! Please ask them to come along and have a look.

### Facebook

Our school Facebook page is used to communicate and promote student achievement and for the immediate communication of relevant information between the school and community. If you haven't already liked and follow us please do so. There were some wonderful photos from Year 7 camp posted live as they were happening!

### Years 7 and 9 Parent information evening for NAPLAN

Later this term we will hold a NAPLAN parent information evening for Parents of students in Years 7 and 9. It will provide an opportunity for parents to experience what it is like to sit a NAPLAN test in the formal setting of the MPC and for us to share suggestions of how you can support your children in preparing for them.

**NAPLAN testing occurs during Term 2, Week 3, May 14<sup>th</sup> – 18th, 2018**

### ABSTUDY

ABSTUDY helps with costs for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Australians who are studying or doing an Australian Apprenticeship. You may be able to get ABSTUDY if you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Australian enrolled in an approved course or apprenticeship and are not getting any other government help to study or do an apprenticeship or traineeship.

### ABSTUDY payments

**Parents or guardians of students younger than 16 and living at home** may be able to get ABSTUDY Schooling Allowance.

**Full-time students who are 16 or older and living at home** may be able to get ABSTUDY Living Allowance. The amount you get may depend on your parents' annual income.

**Full-time tertiary or preparatory course students and other secondary students** may be able to get ABSTUDY Living Allowance. The amount you get may depend on personal, parental or partner income.

**Full-time Australian Apprenticeship, traineeship or trainee apprenticeship students** may be able to get ABSTUDY Living Allowance. The amount you get may depend on personal, parental or partner income.

### Applying for ABSTUDY

To claim, call the ABSTUDY line on **Freecall 1800 132 317**. You can submit supporting documents online at **humanservices.gov.au/submitdocumentsonline**

If you can't claim over the phone, you can get a claim form at **humanservices.gov.au/abstudy**. How long it takes to assess your claim depends on how complex your situation is.

Wishing all of our families the very best for the remainder of term 1.

Sue D'Arcy  
Deputy Principal

## Support Unit News.....

Hello and welcome to 2018. We also welcome some new staff and say goodbye to others. Dan Hutchinson received a transfer to Belmont High School. We wish him good luck. We also have four new teachers.

**Dale Kennewell** is working with our Junior Unit 4 class. She is an experienced teacher and has Learning and Support Background.

**Holly Cronk** is taking all the support classes for Food Technology, Textiles and Computers. This is a positive change for the unit, giving us access to the school's kitchens.

**Isaac King** will be taking all our classes for Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) classes. He has already begun with some great building projects.

We also have Mel Smith returning to her Student Support (SLSO) role after maternity leave. Shari Webber is also re-joining the Support Unit after a year in mainstream classes. Welcome Bec Dodd and Cheryl Clark to the team as SLSOs.

Welcome to Dominic Whitman who will join us in term 2 as Head Teacher Support. In the interim I will be relieving Head Teacher Support. Teachers are currently organising Personal Learning Plan Meetings with all the parents. I look forward to meeting you at those meetings.

I would like to welcome back the rest of the team: Nat, Nicole, Shelley, Leanne, Marlene, Jacqui, Shari, Nicola, and long term casuals Maria and Michelle.

**Baby News:** We want to send our best wishes to Rhiannon and Ben McCartney for the arrival of their son Oskar born Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February. Congratulations!

I have included some photos from our Christmas party last year! A terrific day was had by all.

Sheridan Workman  
Rel H.T.





## Zone Netball Gala Day

On Tuesday the 6<sup>th</sup> of March, ten girls from a combination of Year 9 and 11 travelled to Raymond Terrace to compete in the Zone Netball Gala Day. Despite the horrible wind and rain, the girls pushed through four soggy games with positive attitudes and big smiles on their faces. Overall it was a great day with fantastic teamwork skills and sportsmanship displayed by all. Well done girls!

Savanah Kirkland



## SPORT

Tomaree High had over 15 students competing at the Hunter Swimming Carnival today. Despite the weather we had some fantastic performances. The following students qualified for the NSW CHS Carnival: Logan Stewart (50m free, 100m back and 200m free); Angus Tonks (100m breast); Aiden Tyacke (100m fly, 100m breast and 200m IM); and the 16 Years Boys Relay (Sam Tonks, Angus Tonks, Toby Fraser and Jack Stewart). Congratulations to everyone who competed.

Hunter Regional Representatives  
Congratulations to the following students who have been selected in Hunter Regional Sporting Teams:

**U16 Touch:** Grace Baxter, Toby Fraser, Bayley Rae, Jacinda Summers and Tarsha Wellings

**U15 AFL:** Ethan Lambert

**Open Soccer:** Kaylah Pisani

## CONGRATULATIONS CAL

Well done to our wonderful Student Support Officer, Cal Baillie, who was recognised as Youth Worker of the Year for the Port Stephens area. Well done Cal. Your work with the young people of Port Stephens is greatly appreciated.



## CAREERS NEWS

### Careers Events Semester 1

**She Flies Drone Camp** - Tuesday 3rd & Wednesday 4th April is a 2 day course for female students from Years 7 - 10. Students will be learning to operate drones as part of a STEM project which aims to encourage female participation in Science Technology Engineering and Maths industries.

**Hunter Valley Career Expo** - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> of May. Students will travel to the Maitland Basketball centre where they can explore potential careers and ask relevant questions with the 100 industry representatives. The excursion has a \$5 cost and students from Years 10, 11 and 12 are all invited to attend.

**Singleton Seminar Day** - Friday 25th May, This is an excellent opportunity for Year 12 students to enhance and refine their examination skills for HSC subjects. Highly Experienced Teachers, Examiners and Markers for HSC subjects will present information on how to excel in their given subject. The schedule allows students the opportunity to see at least 6 subject presenters over the day and reports from previous events indicate that information is invaluable. This is a full day excursion departing at 7.15AM and returning at 7PM and the cost is approximately \$67.

**Newcastle University School Visit Day** - Thursday 5th July. An excursion to Newcastle University for Year 12 students where they will have the opportunity to discover possible tertiary courses that are of interest to them. Students with any intention of attending University are advised to participate in this excursion

**Year 10 subject selection** This requires a number of scheduled events to ensure it is completed suitably. The events listed below are supporting the transition program being conducted in careers lessons:

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June -Subject Information summit** conducted in MPC during school. Lead teachers will present course information for subjects on offer during Senior Schooling.

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June –Year 10 Parent/Student Subject information** evening. Procedural requirements and processes will be outlined, followed by a subject fair.

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July –Round table Industry information session.** Industry representatives will present information on occupations, work place environment and career pathway programs. The event will be conducted in the MPC during school time and all year 10 students will be involved.

Kyle McElwain  
Careers

### Well Done Emily

Emily is currently completing a student based traineeship in Nursing at Tomaree Hospital, while studying for her HSC in one of the Big Picture classes at Tomaree High. She is completing her senior portfolio with a focus on nursing and is hoping to gain Portfolio entry into Newcastle University at the end of Year 12. Big Picture Education enables Emily to gain valuable skills, knowledge and experience through both her SBAT and Senior Portfolio.





## Year 7 Report

Well what a start to high school Year 7 have had! New teachers, new friends & new adventures!! Week 6 saw us go to the Great Aussie Bushcamp for our annual Year 7 camp where we started to create strong bonds, friendships and our year identity. While there, the students were pushed to their limits in activities including Dual Flying Fox, Survivor challenge, Leap of Faith, High Ropes, Gully crossing and Lost Island (Mud World) just to name a few.

One story I would like to share is of 2 young men and all of group 6 on the High Ropes Course. Harley took 2 steps out on the first high rope obstacle and returned to the start. This was fantastic as he attempted to conquer his fear of heights. Later Harley then attempted the high ropes for the second time, this time he took 4 steps out on the 10m high obstacle. Again, he should be proud as he challenged himself. Enter Ronnie; Ronnie told Harley how he was going to guide him through the course. Obstacle 1 complete, obstacle 2 complete; this was a fantastic achievement for Harley but that wasn't the most impressive thing. What happened next was a true reflection of what I believe make Year 7 such a special group. The entire of group 6 were on their feet cheering Harley through every obstacle, some of these students had only met for the first time 2 hours prior as this was their first activity. Eventually Harley got to the final zip line and I don't know who was prouder? Ronnie for helping Harley get through the course; Harley for facing his fears and conquering the course; Group 6 for cheering him the whole way around; myself as a proud Year Advisor or Ms D'Arcy as she ran along while Harley zip lined to the safety of the ground. This showed me that if we support, encourage and believe in one another we can achieve so much as a year group.

I would also like to thank the twelve year 10 students who came along to support and mentor Year 7. Ms D'Arcy our Deputy Principal, Mr Ross Year 10 Year Advisor and I were all very impressed by the leadership you displayed throughout the camp and you should all be proud of your efforts.

**Scott McLennan**  
**(Very proud) Year 7 Year Advisor**





March 2018

RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY AND SUCCESS

# TOMAREE HIGH NEWS





## Clean Up Australia Day 2018

At Tomaree High School we have been committed to involving ourselves in Clean Up Australia day for many years, and 2018 was no exception. Schools Clean Up Day is a fun and engaging way to teach our students about the responsible disposal of rubbish, resource recovery and the repercussions of rubbish dumped irresponsibly in our environment.

On March 2, students within the Student Representative Council (SRC) along with Miss Kirkland ventured up to the Tomaree Sports Complex to conduct an out of school clean up. The students involved were extremely enthusiastic with their cleaning efforts, and clearly became increasingly aware of just how much rubbish is irresponsibly dumped in our community.

The Students within the SRC were such a fantastic asset to the day, not only through their efforts during Period 3, but also through helping lead the school clean-up which was held in the last 20 minutes of Period 4.

During Period 4, the whole school was able to participate in a clean-up of the Tomaree High School campus. This was a fantastic way for our students to understand our school expectations of respect and responsibility in the environment. A lot of rubbish was collected from around the playground in a fantastic effort conducted by our students.

A special thank you to all those students who actively participated in this very important day, and also a big thank you to Mrs Gorton who helped co-ordinate the day's activities.

***Because when the rubbish is gone,  
nature can carry on.***

Miss S Kirkland





## 7P Anti Bullying Raps

**YEAR 7 CAPA** were given the task to compose their own Anti Bullying Raps. We discussed bullying and the devastating effects it can have on its victims as well as what to do if you see bullying happen. The class formed small groups and developed their lyrics as well as choreography to go with their pieces. They performed them in class, in costume for one another. 7P is showing itself to be a supportive and caring class who encourage one another in their performances. Well done 7P.

Kirby Fletcher

I see you with that ball,  
don't hit that kid on the wall.  
I see you with that paper,  
Don't be a hater.  
I see you on that computer screen,  
There's no need to be that mean.  
Put that fist away,  
We don't need it on display.  
I hear you speaking gossip,  
You really need to stop it.  
Think before you speak, it might change  
someone's week!

Written by Tori, Bri, Ayva, Cheynne and Gloria

Bullying is bad, you know it's true,  
Cause you know it hurts when it happens to you.  
It won't make people think better of you,  
And in the end it might happen to you.  
Think twice before you say mean things,  
You might hurt people's feelings.  
We should all just stick together,  
We should all be friends forever.  
**BULLYS STOP**

Written by Holly, Aili, Charley and Amy



I was walking down the street and I saw three girls,  
 They all had straight hair, but one had curls.  
 They laughed at her and called her names,  
 and excluded her from joining their games.  
 She ran away with tears down her face!  
 You need to remember that although you may  
 look different we are all the same.  
 A friend named Jimmy came in and wanted to  
 play,  
 And taught the little girl that the best thing to do  
 is just walk away.

Written by Jess, Paige, Leylah, Elly and Tahlia

Hey how you doin? Well I'm just fine.  
 I lie, I'm dyin inside.  
 WAIT LET'S START FROM THE BEGINNING  
 Wake up in the morning feeling like BLAH,  
 Knowing that I have got to go to school and be  
 called a fool.  
 Looking at my reflection,  
 Knowing I'm not perfection.  
 Why won't it stop?  
 Hey Mrs Bully, please leave me alone,  
 You're never ever going to break my bones.  
 I'm never goin to let the bullies hurt my mind.  
 Hey how you doin? Well I'm doin just fine.  
 This time I'm not dyin inside!

Written by Abi, Izzy, Taylah, Molly, Chloe and  
 Aisha



Once there was a boy, who wanted to play,  
 The bully would pick on him until he ran away.  
 He went home and realised that he would be  
 ok,  
 if he stood up to the bully the very next day.  
 He walked up to the bully and looked him in the  
 eye and said  
 "Stop the bullying yo!"

Written by Jamal, Hunter, Will, Sol and  
 Dominic.





## INDUSTRIAL ARTS

In 2017 we farewelled Mr Chris Gallagher after teaching at THS for many years. We wish him all the best in his retirement as we are sure he will enjoy spending time with his family, friends and fishing in his favourite spots.

Term 2, 2018 we will welcome Mr Darryl Newton as a permanent member of staff. He comes from Gulgong High School and is looking forward to his new appointment to Tomaree High School. Year 12 Design and Technology and Industrial Technology are half way through the design and production of their Major Projects. Most of the students are progressing at a steady pace and we have some students that have realised that they need to really focus and increase their commitment to enable them to produce a quality project for the HSC.

Years 7 and 8 Technology Mandatory are settling in very well and enjoying the practical nature of the course and with the accompanying theory component. They are designing and constructing a Brainteaser puzzle for their first project.

Year 9 Industrial Technology Engineering have really embraced the learning opportunities. They have been studying engineering fundamentals and applied their knowledge and understanding inside and outside the classroom. They have also produced their first project utilising the practical skills they have been developing.

The Industrial Arts Faculty are lucky to have wonderful community members and organisations that donate many valuable and useful items. We would like to thank everyone for their support and appreciate the resources that we receive.

Just to list a few recently, Hogs Breath Café for the donation of Mackay Cedar timber that was donated during their renovation.

Grant Douglas from Nelson Bay Radiator and Automotive for the donation of Merbau timber that the school received when he removed his outdoor deck.

Mr Keith Radley for the priceless Tool Chest that he produced many years ago during his apprenticeship and that he used in his trade as a Tool Maker. The Tool Chest has priceless memories and stories around the trade as a

Tool Maker and the students that have seen the Tool Chest have been able to experience something that they would not have been able to any other way. The Industrial Arts staff and students really appreciate this special gift. (pictured below)



Shane Fitzpatrick  
HT Industrial Arts



## Maths Matters

Welcome back to 2018 where all classes are in the full swing of learning Mathematics. Specific classes that have been mentioned by the staff for outstanding behaviour and attitude include 7MH, 9M2, 10M1, 11MS2, 8MT, 7M3, 10MM, 11MA1 to name a few.

### NEW STAFF

We welcome a new permanent member of the Mathematics faculty Mr Robert Powell who is already making a positive impression within the school and has years of Mathematics teaching experience to aid our students.

I would like to publicly express my thanks and gratitude to Mr Kyle McElwain for being such a great asset to the Mathematics faculty over many years. As most students would know, he has been filling the role of Careers Advisor at the school for a while and now holds that position permanently. The faculty will miss his friendly nature and sound advice as he takes his experience to another section of the school.

### ASSESSMENTS for Years 7-10

There have been some minor modifications to assessment task expectations and what is being reported this year in Mathematics.

Some key points include:

All Year 7&8 will have a cluster based task (within level) in Terms 1&3 and a course based task (across the whole year group) semester test in Terms 2&4. All Year 9&10 will continue to have assessment tasks each term within the level (or course) the students are attempting.

A reference sheet will be allowed for all year 7-10 tests in Mathematics to assist students to study and remember formulas. It will be a one-sided A4 sheet of handwritten notes.

A class mark still contributes to the report mark which may include homework, bookwork, work ethic and assignments.

Some students may be moved class typically at the end of each Semester to encourage positive efforts and extend students by moving up or if struggling at the level then moved down for more remedial work.

Class assessments for reporting of Stage 5:

Item	Weight	Outcomes
Common assessment tasks	50% Split 30%/20%	75% Split 45%/30%
Alternate assessment tasks	30%	25%
Class mark	20%	0%

Class assessments for reporting of Stage 4:

Item	Weight	Outcomes
Common assessment task	40%	75%
Alternate assessment tasks	40%	25%
Class mark	20%	0%

The reports will indicate:

- a class assessment mark % based on the weightings listed below
- an average class assessment mark
- a class rank
- a course rank indicated by the box-and-whisker plot based on the common assessment

### CLASS STRUCTURE Year 7 2018

This year is the initial attempt for STEM based classes in Year 7 to be graded. This will allow students access to move classes in Maths/Science/Technics over the next two years. This has not been an option previously, where students were restricted to the same cohort of students for basically all subjects in their W A L K J U M P classes. Hopefully this will allow easier progression for students needing more remedial work and for those students who could handle more extension work.

This new structure will not be without its teething problems and issues (such as timetabling) but should be a positive step forward for the future.

	Course Year 7	Course Year 8
Cluster	7M1-7M2	8M1-8M2
Cluster	7M3-7M5	8M3-8M5
Cluster	7M T, H, S	8M T, H, S
	Year 9	Year 10
Stage 5.3	9M1-9M2	10M1-10M2
Stage 5.2	9M3-9M4	10M3-10M4
Stage 5.1	9M T, H, S	10M M, A, T, H

### CALCULATORS available at front office

All students are to provide their own calculator (not on a mobile phone) which are available at the school front office for \$17. The preferred model is a Sharp scientific calculator.

### UPCOMING ASSESSMENTS

Week 9 Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	P4	Year 8 tests
Week 9 Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	P3	Year 9 tests
Week 10 Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> April	P4	Year 10 tests
Week 10 Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> April	P4	Year 11 tests
		all courses
Week 11 Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	P4	Year 7 tests for most classes
Week 11 all week		Year 12 midcourse exams

Rod Lyons  
HT Maths



## P & C NEWS

### 20th Anniversary Celebration - Diary Dates

The steering committee met on Thursday 15th March and the tentative dates for T.H.S. 20 year celebration events are Friday 9th and Saturday 10th November. Do you have any suggestion for the celebrations?

### Annual General Meeting

The meeting will take place Wednesday 28th March in the staff common room, commencing at 6.15 pm.

All positions will be declared vacant.

Following the AGM there will be a General Meeting.

### Scholarship - Real Futures Foundation

Soldiers Point Marina is offering scholarships to students who have completed or are undertaking a school program funded by the Real Futures Foundation.

For more information contact Tomaree High School Business Manager on 49 811444.

Application forms are available on the school website or from the school office.





## NSW Education Standards Authority



# What the changes to the HSC minimum standard mean for your child

### If your child is in Year 9 or below this year

To receive their HSC, your child needs to meet the HSC minimum standard.

Year 9 NAPLAN tests are no longer available as an early way to demonstrate the HSC minimum standard of literacy and numeracy.

This change has been made to ensure NAPLAN remains focussed on being a diagnostic test and to reduce unnecessary stress for your child.

The NSW Government still requires students to meet a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to receive the HSC, as literacy and numeracy skills are important for success in everyday life after school.

Students will show they meet the HSC minimum standard by passing online tests of basic reading, writing and numeracy skills. Students decide with their teachers when they are ready to sit each test, from Year 10 until a few years after Year 12.

### Parents of current Year 10 students – what you need to know

To receive their HSC, your child needs to meet the HSC minimum standard.

If your child achieved a Band 8 or above in a 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN reading, writing or numeracy test they are recognised as having met the HSC minimum standard in that particular area and will not need to sit the corresponding online test. If they did not get Band 8s or above they will need to take the corresponding online tests.

These are available for students to sit when they feel ready either this year, in Year 11 or 12 or for a few years after they finish their HSC. Your child can take the tests up to twice a year, and once they pass each test, they don't have to sit it again.

Students can keep track of their test results and which tests they have passed via their Students Online account, once their teachers have viewed their results.

### Want to know more?

Visit the [NESA website](#) for videos and resources that [explain the tests](#), and give an overview of the HSC minimum standard.