



Tomaree High School

Respect - Responsibility - Success

September 2019

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - SUE XENOS

It is hard to believe we are almost at the end of another term. As usual, students and staff have been very busy and it is great to see all the wonderful activities taking place across the school in sports, arts and classroom learning.

Year 12

I want to take this opportunity to farewell our Year 12 students. Week 10 of this term is their last official week of school. During that week, the students will participate in the only sanctioned event for them to celebrate their end of school- the Scavenger Hunt on Monday 23rd September. This is open to year 12 students only and is strictly regulated in terms of high expectations for safe driving and responsible 'scavenging'. Parents are encouraged to be drivers and get involved in the fun and dressing up.

Wednesday 25th September is the Graduation Assembly, we are pleased to invite all parents, family and friends who would like to celebrate this formal occasion with us to come along.

Classes will still operate during that week and students are encouraged to attend to ensure they are the best prepared they can be for the HSC .

This year again, the HSC exams will be held at Wests Diggers (unless otherwise notified- a small number will operate here at school). This was a very successful trial last year and we appreciate the support of Wests who have been excellent in accommodating the unique requests for the HSC. The rooms are very quiet, air-conditioned, carpeted and very comfortable. Students reported last year staying longer as they

were not distracted by outside noise.

A reminder that while the exams are held in a licenced premise, students are not expected to go into the club. They will move directly upstairs to the function room.

Mobile Phones

I have written a number of times, and had Facebook and Skoolbag posts, about the issue of mobile phone use in schools. We were actively exploring the introduction of Yondr, which would have seen a complete ban on mobile use for the entire school day.

There has been further consultation with staff and students and we have decided that this was NOT the way forward for our school at this point. That does not mean that we are still not concerned about the use of phones and during Term 4, after further consultation with students so they are clear on the process, a new system for mobile phone management will be introduced.

A brief summary is:

- Phones will be in their bag or in the box/ holder at the start of every lesson (including roll call). Not in pockets or on the desk- they must be away.
- Phones are not to be out during the lesson unless directed by the teacher for a specific learning activity
- There will be no '3 strikes'. Phones out during lesson without permission will be confiscated for the day. They will be placed at the office for collection at the end of the school day.
Repeated confiscation may result in further disciplinary action.

The positives of this system is that students will maintain the use of their phones between classes and at breaks. They will only lose them if they have them out during learning time.

To support this we need you to also be on board, reminding your children to keep their phones away during class. We also ask that you do not call or message your child during class time as they will not be able to answer. When the system starts, we will post bell times again so you can check if they are able to answer. As always, if there is an urgent need to contact your child, please call the office. All classrooms have phones in them and if the message is urgent, we can get it to them quickly.

Students will be able to check their messages between classes and at breaks. This system means that there will only be 1 hour at a time that students will not be looking at their phones- they can check every hour on their way to the next class. We are confident that with this new system , we will not need to move to a complete ban. It will be up to students to show they can manage their phones during class.

Holidays

I wish all out students a safe and restful break and look forward to Term 4. I would also like to acknowledge the number of staff who will be on site during the holidays, running additional tutorials for year 12 students.

Sue Xenos

From Year 8 & 11 Deputy Principal's desk.....

I am sure you will join me in reflecting how quickly this term is passing. Time seems to be flying by!

Year 8 have been busy considering the two elective subjects they would like to study in stage 5 for their ROSA, alongside their compulsory subjects. Thank you to all the Parents and Carers who attended the subject selection evening we ran in week 6. It was really well attended and great to catch up with you all. A number of Year 8s have been busy representing our school in sporting activities as well as those outside of school. I am really proud of your achievements. Well done!

Year 11 students have their Preliminary examinations week 9 of this term. These are their final assessment for the Preliminary courses studied. On Monday of week 10, September 23rd, we will be holding a Higher School Certificate induction session for all Year 11 students. On the 29th October week 3 term 4 a HSC parent evening will be held in the small hall for parents of students going from Yr 11 into Yr 12. This appears on their examination timetable and students are expected to attend. This will mean we are ready to start our Higher School Certificate courses day one, term 4.

I wish all Year 11 students well in their examinations. Remember to have a study plan, revision and summary notes and to make use of past papers. In each exam do your personal best. Please don't get over stressed; have some relaxation time built into your revision timetable. For your personal wellbeing it is really important to have a balance.

Year 11 students are reminded, if necessary, of the need to redeem any 'N' award warnings that have been issued this year so that you can successfully move into Year 12 and the HSC.

Mrs Haynes will be working with any Year 11 students who did not meet the minimum standards in NAPLAN in Year 9 to prepare you for the online tests. She will also administer the tests with you. If you are thinking of leaving school before the end of Year 12 it is important that you see Mrs Haynes as soon as possible.

A big Tomaree welcome to Rhonda Roach our new Aboriginal Education and Engagement Worker, who started with us week 7. Rhonda will work Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday this year. Her role is to support our Aboriginal students in their learning and cultural knowledge to ensure they achieve the best outcomes. Please make Rhonda feel welcome when you see her around the school.

Enjoy the rest of term 3. Remember to make the most of all the opportunities on offer to you and to do your personal best in each and every lesson, by having a positive attitude and putting effort into your work and learning. Enjoy the Spring holiday when we get there!

Regards

Sue D'Arcy

STUDENT SCHOOL ACCOUNTS - FEES IN ADVANCE

Tomaree High School would like to advise parents/carers about the "Fees in Advance" facility available on their family's school account.

Fees in Advance is a credit on your account from either an overpayment/ refund.

This facility can be used for payment of future school fees, excursions or student resources. Fees in Advance will remain on the family's account for use while the student/s are enrolled at Tomaree High School

This may be an option for families who budget funds for future excursions or school fees.

Calendar Events

9 Sep -- Assessments -- Stage 4 Technology - Home Economics (Year 8) - Emerging Technology Impact Task	10 Sep	11 Sep	12 Sep RU OK Day	13 Sep	14 Sep	15 Sep
16 Sep	17 Sep	18 Sep	19 Sep	20 Sep	21 Sep	22 Sep
23 Sep	24 Sep	25 Sep Yr 12 Graduation Assembly	26 Sep	27 Sep	28 Sep -- Holidays -- Spring Holidays	29 Sep -- Holidays -- Spring Holidays
30 Sep -- Holidays -- Spring Holidays						

Agriculture at Tomaree High

Agriculture at Tomaree High Agriculture is delivered to students from Years 8 to 12 at Tomaree High School's Agriculture Farm as well as Primary Industries in Years 11 and 12. The Agriculture Department works closely with industry partners to ensure students are receiving the most up to date information and training in modern technologies in Agriculture such as drones, robotics and GPS, while being able to work with these partners to gain valuable experience. Tomaree High has three fully qualified and experienced Agriculture teachers, all with experience in different areas of Agriculture.

Tomaree Agriculture Department has a wide range of activities relating to a variety of plant and animal enterprises, to appeal to the interests of all students, while giving students an insight as to where their food comes from. Students are also exposed to the problems faced by farmers in the long term supply of our food and food security, whether it be plant or animal based. Tomaree School Farm has a wide range of animals on site, as well as partners that loan animals to ensure the students have the opportunity to learn

how to care for their needs, while learning what products they supply including food and fibre. Tomaree have poultry, both egg layers and meat birds and soon to be turkeys, Dorper sheep, alpacas, guinea pigs, yabbies and fish. Tomaree has an extensive aquaculture set up containing silver perch, Murray cod and eel tailed catfish and was developed with the ongoing assistance from Tailor Made Fish Farm and NSW Fisheries at Taylors Beach.

Horticulture is also a large part of the School Farm at Tomaree High with extensive vegetable gardens, a hydroponics set up and a commercial Native tree nursery supplying local sandmining companies such as Sibelco, tube stock for regeneration of previously mined areas throughout Port Stephens. The nursery is industry leading and can supply between 25000 and 30000 tube stock a year. Due to the high success rate of the tube stock, Tomaree native trees are in high demand.

Tomaree High Agriculture Department has strong partnerships with a variety of company's allowing students to gain valuable insight into employment opportunities and workplace skills. Students in Primary Industries are able to complete work placements with partners such as Salamander Vets, Salamander Florist, Tailor Made Fish Farms, NSW Fisheries, Oakvale Flora and Fauna, Horizons and Pacific Dunes golf courses and Old Farm Nursery just to name a few.

With the drought devastating much of NSW, students studying Agriculture at Tomaree High School have also spent considerable time helping out the farmers and are continuing to do so. In 2018 the students with support of teachers and the Tomaree community managed to fill a 4 horse float with non-perishable goods, water and pet food, which were delivered to Tamworth for "Doing it for the farmers" a not for profit organisation that then distributed the supplies to needy farmers, with over \$1000 also raised. Not to stop there, the School Farm also went on the road providing animals and displays for a petting zoo for other fund raisers such as Medowie's "Bale out the Drought", where over \$85000 was raised and students manned the zoo all day. The contribution by Agriculture students didn't stop there with many students and their families investing many sleepless nights hand raising day old lambs, kids and calves from drought stricken farms. Orphaned or abandoned stock, many less than 24hrs old were rescued from farms around the Tamworth area and hand raised by students and their families until eventually they were strong enough to return to the farmers

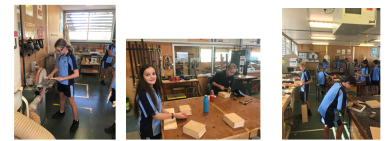
In the second half of 2019 Agriculture students will again be raising funds and collecting food for the farmers for another run to Tamworth, however, this year they are also going to extend this to toys for Christmas presents and hopefully a range of cooking products such as cake mixes and the like, so farmers and their families can bake for Christmas lunch.

In 2019 the Tomaree Agriculture Department will be starting a new initiative, where students will grow a display of herbs or flowers and supply them to local aged care facilities. When the display is either consumed or the flowers have wilted they will be swapped out for a new fresh display.



Industrial Arts

Year 7 Technology Mandatory have continued to impress with their positive attitude and application throughout the year. They have been working with mixed materials learning a range of techniques and processes.



Stage 5 Industrial Technology Timber and Metal students have been working hard to achieve an array of projects from Timber stools, Tool boxes, Bedside Tables and BBQ scrapers.



Year 11 Construction

During Term 3, Year 11 Construction have been completing their modules and practical work in relation to the core units of Carpentry & Joinery and Basic Levelling. Throughout these modules, students have been continuously assessed on their ability to work together, read plans, prepare timber for construction, use power tools, perform basic carpentry & Joinery processes, use basic levelling equipment, fill out booking sheets and establish site finished floor heights and reduced levels.

The Students are now progressing towards beginning their major project for the Construction Pathways course which is the construction of a scaled 2 bedroom house based on architecturally designed plans.

During the early phase of construction, students will be setting out site profiles and establishing exactly where the house will sit on the block. They will then profile and string line where all the piers will be placed and they will set these to be all the same height. Once that is done we will move onto setting bearers and floor joists in place before finally fitting our flooring.





HSIE News

Ancient history students meet prominent archaeologist.

On the 21st June (Week 8, Term 2) an enthusiastic group of Year 11 and 12 Ancient History students journeyed to Dungog High School to hear from renowned Australian archaeologist, Dr Estelle Lazer.

Dr Lazer is a distinguished expert in her field and she is most recognised for her ongoing work at the site of the ancient city of Pompeii in Italy. Pompeii was tragically destroyed by the volcanic eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 A.D. Dr Lazer's work is centred on the human remains of inhabitants that lived in Pompeii at the time of the eruption. Through her study, we now know how these people died and also how these people lived. We understand what they ate, drank and what their overall health was like. Historians can also accurately assess the roles and status of various individuals using Dr Lazer's work.

This was a fantastic opportunity for students to hear from such an accomplished expert in the field of archaeology and also she was also able to provide updates on current work being done at Pompeii. Dr Lazer was able to share her knowledge and wisdom with the Ancient History students who study Pompeii and Herculaneum as a core topic in their HSC as her work features heavily in textbooks and course content. Year 11 students also gained a wealth of background knowledge for them to draw upon in their HSC year of 2020.

It was an amazing experience to meet and engage with Estelle.

Mr Joel Ross

Ancient History Teacher

Year 12 Geography Sydney Excursion

Students from Year 12 Geography completed their mandatory fieldwork component of the course in Sydney last week. Students investigated a range of Urban Dynamics in Sydney with a specific focus on the inner city suburb of Pyrmont. Pyrmont was once the industrial and port heartland of Sydney however during the 1970s became vacant and disused.

The NSW Government in the 1980s undertook a major urban renewal project of Darling Harbour, Ultimo and Pyrmont to rejuvenate the area. Presently the site of Barangaroo is being renewed in order to provide a range of multiple land uses from commercial, residential to open-space.

In Pyrmont students investigated the urban planning principles of urban infill, adaptive re-use of heritage buildings, provision of open-space and access to the harbour, gentrification and the creation of a sustainable community focus urban village.

The fieldwork was conducted through the Observatory Hill Environmental Education Centre where students accessed a range of primary and secondary research techniques.



Year 12 HSC Drama Examinations

On the 5th of September we all held our breath and wondered if we would get through the day. There was stress, there were tears, there was slight hyperventilation and that was just in the performances!

It was the culmination of two years of study where Year 12 Drama were able to use all of their skills, knowledge and understanding to show visiting Examiners from NESAs just what they were made of.

The day began with two group performances which had been devised by students since the beginning of Term 2 this year. After this they performed their Individual pieces. One drama student stated that she had "waited two years for this!" Overall there were nine individual performances as three of the students chose to do other options for their Individual Project. We had two Costume Design folios and one Script sent off to NESAs the previous week.

Our up and coming senior drama students, Year 10 Drama, were the audience for the day and were able to see what would be expected of them in the future.

Congratulations to all involved in the day!



Careers News

Careers decisions come to a pinnacle towards the end of Term 3, Year 12 students are determining a pathway to transition to employment and year 10 students will complete the subject selection process and begin participating in work experience programs. Exciting times for students and there are various careers programs on offer to help guide students to explore and ultimately establish a fulfilling career pathway.

Year 12 are studying hard for the HSC, they also need to ensure that they are planning for the transition to life beyond school. Students progressing to University have until September 27 to complete University Applications and subsequent school recommendation scheme. Having applied, it is possible to modify course choice at a later date on the UAC site (<https://www.uac.edu.au/>). Post school options are enhanced when completing application by the set date as students may receive early entry offers. For students moving to employment post school, they should be applying for advertised positions now as many 2020 apprenticeship and traineeship positions are filled at this time of year. As Careers adviser I will be speaking to students to determine intended exit plans and also providing assistance with any transition planning.

Subject selection is just about complete for most Year 10 students and the emphasis now moves to programs such as work experience and TAFE taster days. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in work experience in December, but all students must complete the work readiness program prior to arranging a placement, the information regarding this will be offered during careers lessons. Some students have elected to experience TAFE by signing up for the TAFE YES program, they will travel to Newcastle to participate in courses such as Film, Plumbing, Tiling and Game Development. Mock interviews which will be conducted by Port Stephens council will take place in Term 4, here participants will develop and hone communication skills which are rarely practised. Careers lessons support the implementation of all these programs but some programs such as work experience are voluntary, so please encourage students to partake.

Port Stephens Koala and Wildlife Preservation Society is implementing a work experience program with Tomaree High, students will be attending the sanctuary once a week during Term 4 where they will be taught skills to care for the hospitalised Koalas. A once in a lifetime opportunity for 20 excited students who have enrolled into the program, each will receive certificates but this represents a unique opportunity to access endangered Koalas in a manner that will hopefully help the Koalas survive into the future.

There are many exceptional careers activities and opportunities available to students and they often come up at short notice so it is essential students listen to school notices or connect with Tomaree High Careers Facebook page. Participation will influence career development and give them the necessary work-related skills which will allow them to prosper in future workplaces.



NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM 2019

School vaccination clinics continue into terms 4

Thursday, 7Th of November, 2019

WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS MISSED A VACCINE

If your child has missed any vaccinations they will be offered any missed doses at the next clinic at their school.

WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS NOT RECEIVED BOTH HPV VACCINES BEFORE THE END OF 2019?

Any year 7 student with missed doses of HPV vaccine can be caught up in 2020.

ADDITIONALLY:

- **Any 2019 year 8 student** who commenced HPV vaccination while in year 7 and are yet to finish the course of HPV (and who has not received any from their local doctor) can still receive this at the next clinic at their school (as long as 6 mths have elapsed).

Any year 10 student who returned a signed consent card for Meningococcal ACWY vaccine and has not receive this in 2019 (and who has not received it from their local doctor) can still receive this at the next clinic at their school.

Please note:

- **As of July 2017 any student** who has missed school program vaccines or any childhood vaccines can now receive these vaccines from their local doctor.

Don't forget a Record of Vaccination is given to each student for each vaccination. Parents/guardians should ensure that this record is kept for future reference and should not assume that their child has been vaccinated if they do not receive this Record of Vaccination.

Any questions, visit the NSW Ministry of Health website at:

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/schoolvaccination.aspx>

MATHS MATTERS

Junior Assessment Policy

Students have received their reports early this term and some class changes have been made accordingly. Just a reminder of what the report indicates:

Reports for Stage 4 and 5 will be class based but with a course rank indicated by the box-and-whisker plot. Only common assessments contribute to the course rank.

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

We like to reward students who work hard in class, have achieved at the level they are attempting and have the same opportunities as each other class member. The report also gives a realistic indication of a students' ability within their year group.

This means that someone will be ranked 1st for their class on the report, irrespective of the level being attempted. It also means students in a higher level still receive the benefit of a course rank across the board to acknowledge their ability.

Hard work and consistent results will be rewarded on reports.

Class changes for Stage 4 STEM line

This is the first year we have been able to make class changes for Mathematics in Year 7 & 8 mid-year. This is based on the STEM line where Mathematics and Science are blocked together, so a change in Mathematics class also means changing the Science class and potentially the Tech/Art class of a student.

Considerable consideration was made before any changes were made, with Science and Mathematics collaborating to work out the best possible movements, and a check of their Primary school results. Unfortunately with this flexibility comes some sacrifice, and a couple of students were required to move classes due to their Science results rather than their Mathematics reports.

We always try to get students to their appropriate level by Year 9, where there are 3 distinct courses running at different levels. As such, we will continue to review class changes at the end of the year for potential movement for the following year.

Students are always encouraged to do their best.

Mathematics Competitions

As part of our effort to encourage Extension activities, some students have been competing in the Australian Mathematics Competition for selected students in each Year group, Australian Problem Solving Mathematics Olympiad for Year 7&8 students and shortly the ICAS Mathematics competition, where students from the top classes have been encouraged to enter. Thank you to Mr Anderson for coordinating all these challenging competitions.

Year 12 HSC study programme

The Mathematics faculty will again be providing some revision days in the holidays for our HSC students. A

timetable will be provided on available times and days to visit the teachers. We wish students all the best and hope they achieve the results of which they are deserving.

A thought worth remembering:

Winner's Creed

If you think you are beaten, you are

If you think you are not, you don't

If you would like to win but think you can't

You almost certainly won't.

If you think you'll lose, you've lost

For out in the world you'll find

Success begins with a fellow's will

It's all in the state of mind.

For many a race is lost

Before a step is run

And many a coward fails

Before his work has begun.

Think big and your deeds will grow

Think small and you will fall behind

Think that you can and you will

It's all in the state of mind.

Life's battles don't always go

To the stronger or faster man

But sooner or later the man who wins

Is the fellow who thinks he can.

Languages

French

Year 7 and 8 French students have been learning to exchange greetings; describe themselves and others; exchange information about family members and pets and talk about where they live.

The students have listened, spoken, read and written texts on these topics.

One of the pair work speaking activities they have done is the Trapdoor activity as seen in the photo of 8M.



CAPA

7Art6 experimented with perspective and 3D imaging through these colourful hand artworks.

- Mrs Archer (CAPA)

CALCULATORS PURCHASED FROM TOMAREE HIGH SCHOOL.

Calculators purchased from Tomaree High School are now \$18.70.

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This is a link to our previous newsletter