



**TAS**  
THE ARMIDALE  
SCHOOL

EXPLORE  
EXPERIENCE  
EXCEL

# TAS TALKS

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 14 February, 2018 Term 1 Week 3

## FROM THE HEADMASTER



Mr Murray Guest

### Cadet Leadership

Last weekend saw the first stage of the training for our new cadet leaders as 57 students from Year 9 to Year 12 completed the theory stage of the junior and senior leaders' course. The 13 hours of training on Sunday and full day on Monday highlighted the significant commitment being made by these students, all in the knowledge that their success in the course will mean more work in future as they take responsibility for others rather than enjoying an easier ride. The course aims to put them in situations where they will be out of their depth and help them to recognise how they will react. It tests their responses to adversity and requires that they build a team with people they may not otherwise work with.

It is a process that our Unit Commander, Angus Murray, likes to describe as 'preparing the child for the path, rather than the path for the child'.

The practical component of the course next weekend will focus on navigation and fieldcraft and the group will be tested with long days and physically demanding exercises, all with the purpose of experiencing decision making and teamwork in stressful situations. This level of training is unusual in a school situation but powerful in developing real leadership skills and I wish all our aspiring leaders well for it.

### Swimming and War Cries

The end of Week 3 brings together a number of feature events for students and parents alike. The war cry competition that brings our houses in Middle and Senior School together in these early weeks of the year and the swimming carnivals that mark the first inter-house competition right across the School are important markers that the school year is really underway. The mass participation that I know we will see again on Thursday and Friday is a reflection of the spirit of involvement that is central to our school character and it is wonderful to see so much excitement about it.

As always there is sure to be a big parent presence, particularly on the Thursday night, and seating and good vantage points will be at a premium.

If you click on any Department heading of TAS Talks in the table of contents below you will be able to navigate directly to that page.

Use the Home button on the bottom of each page to navigate back to the front page.

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# FROM THE HEADMASTER

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For that reason we have reserved a section of seating for Year 12 parents until the first swimming race so that they have an opportunity to see their sons and daughters at their final carnival.

## Charity Fundraising 2018

The swimming carnival also signals the beginning of the charity fundraising for 2018 that is led by our senior students. This year the group will be supporting Childhood Cancer Support and I know that this will resonate with our school community. In addition to the usual opportunities to donate at the war cry night and carnival, a 'Go Fund Me' page has been established to enable those who cannot be with us to be a part of our campaign and I commend our student leaders on their initiative.

The links to both the Go Fund Me page and the Childhood Cancer Support website are below.

Go Fund Me:

<https://www.gofundme.com/childhood-cancer-support-fundraiser>

## Childhood Cancer Support:

<https://www.ccs.org.au/>

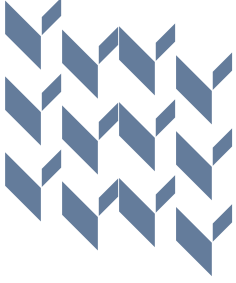
## Tours of the Girls' Boarding House

We will open the new girls boarding house for walk through visits on Thursday from 5:30 to 6:30 after the Middle School information sessions and before the War Cries and swimming competitions begin. This is the first new boarding house to be built in Armidale in the past 30 years and it represents a substantial achievement both in its design and the success of its completion in such a tight timeframe. We are looking forward to showing it to our community and staff will be on hand to answer questions.

## TAS Talks 'Refresh'

You will notice a few changes to TAS Talks this week. This important electronic newsletter has a new look and feel and is smaller in size than it has been in recent years. These are changes that have been made as a direct response to the feedback we received in the MMG school survey last year. The clear message from parents was that as valuable as TAS Talks is, it is too long, so we have reduced the size of some articles and changed the design to make it easier to read on tablets, phones and computers. I offer thanks to our Development Office for this initiative and hope that our readers find it helpful.





## WEEK 3

Thursday 15 February

Junior School Swimming Carnival  
Middle School Parent Information Session  
and Barbecue  
Tours of the new Boarding House  
War Cry Competition followed by MS/SS  
200m F/S events

Friday 16 February

Middle and Senior School Swimming  
Championships

17-19 February

Cadet Leaders Course

18/19 February

Encore Year 11/12 Music Excursion to  
Sydney

## WEEK 4

Monday 19 February

Encore Year 11/12 Music ( Sydney)

Thursday 22 February

BATYR Year 10

Friday 23 February

BATYR Year 11

AYO Music Camp ( Sawtell)

Saturday 24 February

NSW Schoolboy Head of the River

## Parking and Stopping in School Bus Zones

With so many new families joining us this year, parents and carers are reminded of the need to observe rules regarding parking and stopping in designated pedestrian crossing zones and bus areas, particularly in Douglas St.

Apart from jeopardising the safety of students and the smooth flow of traffic, there are penalties that may be enforced by Armidale Regional Council rangers.

Please take note of the regulations in the leaflet at the back of TAS Talks.

## School Drive Subsidy

Residents of NSW are eligible to apply for a subsidy if it is necessary to drive your car between home and school (or nearest bus pick up point) for distances over 1.6km. For complete information about eligibility and the application process, please go to this internet site.

<https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#wholsEligibleSchoolDrive>

or contact Mrs Meg Sadler [travel@as.edu.au](mailto:travel@as.edu.au) for advice.

## Public and charter travel options for boarders

Boarders are eligible for free travel between home and school on services provided by Transport for NSW School Students Transport Scheme (SSTS).

As well as the daily Xplorer train (Armidale - Sydney Central) and the connecting coach (Armidale - Tenterfield), there are charter services which run at the end of Terms 1, 2 and 3 and beginning of Terms, 2, 3 and 4. These services are extended to the Easter break and the Queen's Birthday weekend when the school is closed and no sporting matches are scheduled.

Coaches depart on the day after 3.30 break-up, so AM Thursday 29 March for Easter - returning on Monday 2 April (in time for supper) and end of Term 1 - depart AM Friday 13 April - returning on Monday 30 April (in time for supper)

## Charter Coach Routes

Armidale - Coffs Harbour - Port Macquarie

Armidale - Tamworth - Narrabri - Burren Junction - Walgett - Bourke

Armidale - Inverell - Moree - Lightning Ridge

Armidale - Gunnedah - Coonabarabran - Dubbo

Armidale - Sydney, via Hunter Valley - runs parallel to the train

Please contact Meg Sadler [travel@as.edu.au](mailto:travel@as.edu.au) for further information.

## Skoolbag app for iphone and android users:

TAS Skoolbag App is now available for both iPhone and Android phones. Families are encouraged to download this extremely useful app which allows the school to send reminders to families when the newsletter is available to view online (and you can view it from the app), upcoming dates and lots of other exciting things. It is a great way to notify families of last minute cancellation of events or arrival times of buses from school excursions etc! To install Skoolbag on your Smartphone:

IPhone Users: Search The Armidale School in the App Store on your phone, PC or Mac and install.

Android Users: Search The Armidale School in the Google Play Store on your phone, PC or Mac and install.

Once you have installed the app on your phone, you can chose to receive notifications relevant to your child/ren's school year by tapping More at the bottom of the screen then select 'My Subscription Groups' and turning on the relevant school years.

### Junior and Senior Swim Carnivals Cake Stalls

During the Swim Carnivals (Junior – Thursday 15 and Senior Friday 16) the P&F operate a Cake Stall.

Our sport carnival cake stalls raise a significant amount of money for the P&F and this money is used to make TAS better for our children so if you could support this worthy cause by baking or buying some yummy food and helping on the stall it would be appreciated. Anything will be gratefully received and can be dropped off to the P&F stall near the swimming pool prior to the start of your swimming carnival. Remember this cake stall is mainly for the kids to buy things to munch on (so don't forget some pocket money) and a little bit for the adults.

Suggested baked/food items include cupcakes, biscuits, cake and slices (cut into single serve portions), jelly cups, savoury goodies, gluten-free and dairy-free items (with labelling and a list of ingredients). However, please remember all items should be nut free. If you bring in a container that you would like returned, please clearly mark it with your name and collect it after the carnival.

### Welcome Barbecue on War Cries Night – Thursday 15 from 5 – 7pm

On the night of the Middle/Senior School War Cries the P&F will be hosting a BBQ under the Junior School Covered Area from 5-7pm for all families that are not involved in the Middle School Introductory Evening.

Sausage sandwiches will be \$2 and soft drinks and water will be available so that you don't starve during War Cries... Come and join us, meet some new people and prepare yourselves for the competition that is TAS War Cries... If you'd like to flip a few snags to help please let Rachael Nicoll know on 0418 980 662 or nicollfamily1@gmail.com.

### Next P&F Meeting

Our next P&F meeting will be on Wednesday 21 March at 7pm in Lower Maxwell Room – all are welcome!

***Mrs Rachael Nicoll***  
**President**

## STALL TIMES

### Junior School (Thursday 15)

8am – 9am Set up	Anyone who wishes to help
9am – 10am	Year 5
10am – 11am	Year 4
Morning Tea	10.45 – 11.15am approx
11am – 12pm	Year 3
12pm – 1pm	Year 2
Lunch	12.15 – 1.45 approx
1pm – 2pm	Year 1
2pm onwards and pack up	Kindergarten

### Middle and Senior School (Friday 16)

8.30– 9.30am Set up	Year 10
9.30 – 10.30am	Year 7
10.30 – 11.30am	Year 9
11.30am – 12.30pm	Year 8
12.30 – 1.30pm	Year 11
1.30 – 2.30pm	Year 12
2.30 onwards and pack up	Year 6

### Absque Deo Nihil #3

#### 2 Peter 3:3-9

In the Sydney Morning Herald a couple of years ago we heard of the horrific news of flight MH370 that seemingly vanished from the planet.

We ask the same question that the author of one article posed "In the age of satellites, surveillance and connectivity, real-life mysteries... intrigue us even more." Maybe it's more than intrigue, maybe it exposes us to how finite and powerless we can be. As the article quotes Hans Weber, a US aviation consultant, saying "We like to think that we are in control...not knowing, means you're not in control."

Sometimes we fall into the trap of thinking 'without me nothing'. Certainly, humanity can convince itself 'without us nothing'. But of course, this is a nonsense, we only have to be thoughtful for a moment to realise there is so much out of our control, so much misunderstanding and even confusion. So where does this leave us?

Perhaps we need to come back to our motto, "without God nothing". This is more tenable, this is more possible, where we do not know, where we know our limitations, we can also know that God knows... without Him nothing.

However, this is where we must ask a serious question. If we stand by this motto, "nothing without God", then we must also ask, we are compelled to ask, and now have license to ask, why do these sorts of tragedies happen in God's world? This is the right question, and can only be posed by someone who has come to the point of knowing they are not in charge, and God is.

You see its not a question that can be asked by the person who says there is no God, there is no logic in asking a myth anything, let alone apportioning blame to a myth. To use Richard Dawkins' words in describing a world without God he says it's a world only characterised by "blind, pitiless, indifference". If that's the case, why do we think things should be different at all, and ask any questions?

So let us ask God, why pain, why suffering? Why don't you put an end to all this mess, and restore your creation to its intended state?

If you listened carefully to the reading you would have heard the beginning of an answer.

In a way its easy to sit back and report on TAS in a judgemental way, not it does not do this or that. But be careful, you are TAS, we are TAS. This place is made up of 'us', not them. How we conduct ourselves contributes to the report card, how have we gone in the past? How will we go this year?

One thing is true, as the passage describes love as patient and kind etc., there is one for whom the report card reads – always. The New Testament book of John describes God as love. God's report card reads 'God is love'. This is good news, when we don't love, when we don't deserve love, God's love persists. This is good news for us here at TAS, our report card reads – 'loved'.

**Mr Richard Newton**  
**Chaplain**



Mr Richard Newton



### Extended Academic Day Program - Library

A reminder of TAS' Extended Academic Day Program and the opening hours of the Library.

The extended library hours will be staffed by Mrs Bremner or Mrs Polson. They are both trained teachers and will oversee students working quietly and assisting them with organising and completing homework. They will give general guidance but they are not there to provide specific tutoring in areas of concern.

### Early Morning Program (7:30am – 8:45am Monday to Friday for Years 6 to 12)

The Library will open from 7.30am for students who are at school for early commitments or just want to work quietly or read before the school day starts.

### Afternoon Program (3:30pm – 6pm Mondays to Thursdays for Years 6 to 8)

Literacy and Numeracy sessions are available. Charges apply for Day students at \$15 per afternoon.

Please contact Mrs Vickey O'Brien [vobrien@as.edu.au](mailto:vobrien@as.edu.au) if you wish to book your child in for one of these sessions.

Day students must be collected by 6pm.

Years 6-8	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
3.45 -5pm	Literacy and/or Numeracy Support	Literacy and/or Numeracy Support	Literacy and/or Numeracy Support	Literacy and/or Numeracy Support

### Afternoon Program (3:30pm – 6pm Mondays to Thursdays for Years 9 to 12)

The library is open for all students in Years 9 to 12 to work quietly until 7pm.

### Evening Program (7pm - 9pm Mondays to Thursdays for Years 9 to 12)

Years 9-10	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
7-8pm	Academic Workshop	English	English	Maths/Science
8-9pm	Science/Maths			

Years 11-12	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
7-8pm	Maths	Biology	Advanced Maths	Mathematics Standard/General
8-9pm	Academic Workshop	Chemistry or English	Maths Extension or English	Physics



Mrs Seonia Wark

Academic Workshops will not occur every week but aim to address particular needs of students at specific times of the year. Day students accessing the tutoring sessions above will be charged at \$10 per hour session.

### Friday Afternoon Program (3:30pm – 5.30pm for Years 6 to 12)

The library will be open for all students in Years 6 to 12 to work quietly until 5.30pm. There is no specific academic support available during this time.

### Weekend Program (Saturdays & Sundays - 2pm - 5pm for Years 6 to 12)

There is no specific academic support available during this time but Mrs Bremner or Mrs Polson will give general guidance and assist with researching and referencing. There is no cost for this and students do not have to book in.

Boarders are always required to sign out of their boarding house and return when required.

Day students are able to access the Dining Hall at breakfast or dinner by swiping their Student Card at the door. Costs associated with meals will be added to their TAS account.

*Please note - there will be no tutoring this Thursday Evening due to War Cries and swimming events.*

## Round Square News

Welcome back to the new year and to a raft of opportunities available to your children, both regionally and internationally.

For those of you who are new to TAS, Round Square is an organisation that we have been a member of since 1998 and allows us to forge relationships with over 170 schools around the world and their students. We offer student exchange in Year 8 (in pairs if preferred) to schools within our Australasia and East Asia region for two-three weeks and then again in Year 10 for a period of around eight-ten weeks anywhere in the world. Mr Buntine and I facilitate exchanges and students should speak to either of them to explore the idea further.

## Exchange

Current Year 9 students, if considering the possibility of exchange in 2019, should make application as early as possible to allow the best chance to secure an exchange placement. For further details regarding exchange please see the TAS website:  
<http://www.as.edu.au/about/round-square-membership/international-and-national-exchange-program/>

We welcome this term Ben Clark from Gordonstoun, Scotland and Mariana Calp from Colombia into our community. Mariana is our first exchange student from South America and we are delighted to have her with us. The TAS/Gordonstoun exchange has been in place for many years and Will Benham is currently enjoying his time at Gordonstoun. John Moore left for the United States early in January and is now on exchange at Marvelwood School, Connecticut.

## Conferences 2018-2019

Round Square conferences also occur annually hosted by different schools and for differing age groups. You will see from the table below what is on offer in the next two years.

Conference delegations are around five-six students, with accompanying staff.

You will note that TAS is hosting a Round Square Conference for 10-12 year olds in the second week of the April holidays this year and planning is well underway. This is an exciting opportunity for our older students to take up leadership roles during the program and for our own students in that age group to apply to represent TAS as our delegation to the conference and offers an exciting few days with students from our region coming together to focus on the conference theme:

***“Humanity in Action – Remembering our past, appreciating our present, building our future.”***

### Applications are open for:

- TAS Conference for 10-12 year olds
- Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School for 15-17 year olds
- Appleby College, Canada for Year 11 students

The delegation to Keystone Academy, China, is already finalised and is being managed by Ms Hannah Lo and Mrs Anna Gayner. The delegation consists of: Oliver Cook, Jordyn Melville, Henry Mitchell, Flynn Newbery, James Phelps and Kade Stanley.

Please see Mrs Barnier or Mr Buntine to apply – or you might download an application form from the TAS website:  
<http://www.as.edu.au/about/round-square-membership/round-square-conferences/>

Should you like to learn more about Round Square, go to: <http://www.roundsquare.org>

***Mrs Anna Barnier  
EA to the Headmaster and Round Square Representative***

	10/12 Years Regional Conference	13/15 years Regional Conference	15/18 years Regional Conference	Year 11 – International Round Square Conference
<b>2018</b>	The Armidale School, Australia – 22-26 April 2018	Keystone Academy, China 31 March to 4 April – this conference is for 13/14 years old	Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School, Australia Dates 14-18 April	Appleby College, Canada 30/9 – 7/10 2018
<b>2019</b>	British School Jakarta, Indonesia – 26 April – 1 May 2019	Woodleigh School, Australia dates 6 – 9 April 2019.	Shenzhen Concord College of Sino-Canada 4-8 March	The Emerald Heights International School, India



## A visit from Stephen Foley Head of College and Chief Executive at St Leo's, University of Queensland

We were very fortunate to receive a visit from Stephen last year where he spoke to interested students from our Year 12 cohort, who were thinking of studying north of the border. He spoke on behalf of all the colleges at UQ (single sex and co-ed) and was very informative and passionate about the opportunities that UQ offers young men and ladies to study and further their education.

He will be at TAS on 15 March and will speak with the interested students (and parents) about residential life at UQ, in the Upper Maxwell Room from 1.30-2.00 and then be available for private consultations afterwards.

## Year 10 Careers My Future Finder

In Year 10 careers classes we have started the year's program with a discussion of the role and importance of work and employment in the life of the average Australian. The students were shown how to apply for a Tax File Number (TFN) and a Unique Student Identifier (USI) number. These were as tasks to complete in their own time. They are to send me a copy of their USI number for school records. They should not share their TFN with anyone, was the advice given.

Next, we are moving on to the My Future Finder (MFF) program offered by UNE to all students in the region, free of charge. This is an online personality and career matching assessment. A report is then generated explaining their results and suggested career fields they might like to explore and consider. A copy of this report is sent home to parents for their consideration as well. This is an extremely informative report and worthy of family discussions. This report should be coming your way in the next few weeks.

## HSC Careers Expo

For the last three years we have been travelling to Sydney for the HSC Career Expo at Moore Park. We have incorporated a visit and tour of University of Sydney and St Andrew's College. There is some possibility of including The Women's College and St John's as well this year.

This will be an overnight excursion leaving after lunch on the Thursday 30 May, travel to Sydney High Boat Shed for our accommodation and return after the Expo and be back at TAS by 9.30 – 10.00 on Friday 1 June.

This has proved to be a very good motivating event for the Year 12 students and I would encourage all students who are thinking of further education to come and see and talk to the numerous universities and colleges who will have displays at the Expo. The Expo also offer HSC tutorials in numerous subjects. More details will follow when the program for the day has been published.

## 2018 Health Careers Forum – Tamworth Education Centre, 114-148 Johnston Street, North Tamworth

The University of Newcastle Department of Rural Health (UONDRH) will be conducting the annual Health Careers Forum for North West New England Secondary schools for Years 10, 11 and 12 students who may be interested in a career as a health professional. The invitation is also extended to parents and carers of the students attending. The forum will include presentations and workshops by academics, clinicians and current UONDRH students from health disciplines including; Medicine, Nutrition & Dietetics, Physiotherapy, Medical Research, Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy, Mental Health, Radiation Science, Nursing and Speech Pathology. If you are interested in attending I need to give final numbers and reply by 27 February. If we get enough interest we might be able to organise a mini bus for the event. Please send me an email to register you interest.

*Mr Mark Taylor*



UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL HEALTH

**HEALTH CAREERS FORUM:**

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR

- A rewarding lifelong career path
- A chance to help change and save lives
- An opportunity to investigate the different health professions?

Medicine	Occupational Therapy
Medical Radiation Science	Pharmacy
Medical research	Physiotherapy
Mental Health	Social Work
Nursing & Midwifery	Speech Pathology
Nutrition & Dietetics	

**TAMWORTH**

TUESDAY 6TH MARCH 2018 2 SESSIONS: 9.15AM – 11.30AM  
12.30PM – 2.45PM

114-148 JOHNSTON STREET, NORTH TAMWORTH

CONTACT: 6755 3607 or [healthcare@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:healthcare@newcastle.edu.au)

**RSVP to your school Careers Advisor**

# FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

## Connect with us!

Welcome to our many new families! As you will find, TAS is a diverse community of students, parents and friends, past, present and future. There are many ways to engage with the School and stay connected.

The TAS website [www.as.edu.au](http://www.as.edu.au) is the first place to go to for information about what's happening at TAS. Click on the Portals button at the top right of the home page to go to the Parent Portal, where you can find everything you need to know in one place - whether it be current news, forms and school policies, links to the Uniform and Book Shop and Medical Centre, the latest dining room menus - and so much more. Please familiarise yourself with the information available, and bookmark it for your convenience. Also on the menu bar is a shortcut to the School's photo gallery ([www.as.edu.au/community/photo-gallery](http://www.as.edu.au/community/photo-gallery)); simply click on the camera icon next to the Round Square logo.

Current families and Old Armidaliens (our former students) receive the quarterly publication Binghi, which is also available in digital form [here](#)

TAS is also a recognised leader in social media, utilising various platforms.

On Facebook, 'Like' us at [www.facebook.com/TASarmidale](http://www.facebook.com/TASarmidale) - as more than 3,200 other members of our community have done. We also post images to the School's Instagram account @tasarmidale which offers snapshots of #taslife; for those on Twitter, follow us @TASarmidale.

Join our network at LinkedIn by searching for 'TAS The Armidale School'.

Many sports and co-curricular Music also use Team App, a handy way of getting out urgent information about practices, team lists and results. To see if your sport offers Team App (and to subscribe, go to <http://www.as.edu.au/life-at-tas/co-curricular/sport/tas-sport/team-apps/>

## Skoolbag app for Iphone and Android

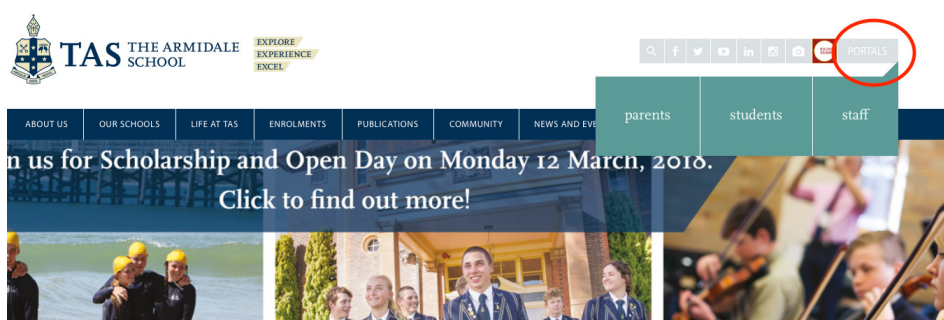
TAS Skoolbag App is now available for both iPhone and Android phones. Families are encouraged to download this extremely useful app which allows the school to send reminders to families when the newsletter is available to view online (and you can view it from the app), upcoming dates and lots of other exciting things. It is a great way to notify families of last minute cancellation of events or arrival times of buses from school excursions etc! To install Skoolbag on your Smartphone:

iPhone Users: Search The Armidale School in the App Store on your phone, PC or Mac and install.

Android Users: Search The Armidale School in the Google Play Store on your phone, PC or Mac and install.

Once you have installed the app on your phone, you can choose to receive notifications relevant to your child/ren's school year by tapping More at the bottom of the screen then select 'My Subscription Groups' and turning on the relevant school years.

If you have any questions please contact TAS Reception.



Every Wednesday the School's weekly newsletter TAS Talks is produced, full of information of relevance to current families. A link to TAS Talks is emailed to those who subscribe; for details how to add your email address to the distribution list, [click here](#)

Welcome aboard!

**Tim Hughes**  
**Media Manager**

## Managing Clashes

Making choices; prioritising. It is a part of life. Even if we could schedule the many activities at TAS so they did not collide, we would be doing students a disservice if we did so. Instead, we help them manage these clashes. There are a few basic guidelines which will help parents support their children through this exercise:

1. Communicate – Please speak to or email the staff members in-charge of the conflicting activities to alert them to the clash. They will understand and assist in negotiating a solution.
2. First Choice sports take priority over other sports.
3. Creative Arts take priority on Monday afternoons (although, this does not preclude students from negotiating a compromise)
4. Sports take priority on other afternoons (although, this does not preclude students from negotiating a compromise)
5. Curriculum (early/late classes, excursions) take priority over co-curricular
6. Students should notify their coach if they are to be absent due to any school-based activities

Ultimately, we are looking for the best outcomes for every student; balancing loyalty and commitment with breadth of opportunities and growth. If you are ever unsure, please email the co-curricular office at [dcc@as.edu.au](mailto:dcc@as.edu.au).

## Middle/Senior School Swimming Championships – Important Information

- Thursday 15 February 6:45pm - 200m freestyle events, Open Medley Relay and House War Cry Competition
- Friday 16 February 8:45am - 4:00pm.  
**Rollcall for Day-students, 8:20am on Wakefield.** Competitors for the first event of the day (Girls 50m freestyle) are to report to the marshalling area (southeast corner of the gym) by 8:45am. All remaining competitors and House members are to be seated by 8:50am
- **No false starts are allowed**
- BBQ Lunch will be provided for all parents & students on Friday
- Dress will be House polo shirts and blue shorts. **All competitors must swim in TAS swimmers**
- All competitors will wear a House swim cap. These will be provided to all students at the pool. Competitors are strongly advised to wear goggles.
- You may not colour your hair, nor write on your body with a texta pen (except on the House War Cry Competition night). Except for water, no food or drink may be consumed in the pool area. Students may not leave the Sports Centre area without permission from their respective Heads of House.
- P&F will be serving a BBQ dinner for parents on Thursday night. Tea and coffee is available all day at the P&F cake stall on Friday.



Mr Will Caldwell



# CO-CURRICULAR REPORTS

## Trial Bay Triathlon

Sunday's running of the 28th Trial Bay Triathlon witnessed the first 'hit out' for those TAS triathletes chasing their place in the NSW All Schools race later this month.

Set amongst the beautiful South West Rocks coastline, the event comprises a 500m swim in the bay, an undulating 25km ride and a tough 6km run through the bush, finishing with a 2km stretch along the beach.

A blistering swim from James O'Brien saw him out of the water in under 8minutes, with Clancy Roberts, Lucas Cotterell and Sam Jones not far behind. Hamish Tydd and Albertus Hattingh exited the water with the main pack before charging up the beach to the transition zone. Remy Taylor, unable to swim due to a shoulder injury, still completed the ride and run, thus joining the race post swim.

The bike course meandered through the national park, with long straights punctuated by short sharp hills and numerous tight corners. James showed the benefits of a solid training block during the holidays, holding his position within the field and setting a bike split of 46minutes. Sam was close by with Remy and moving through the field during the bike leg. Unfortunately a double flat ended Lucas' day only 10km into the ride.

The run is where the action really happens in a triathlon. Sam surged ahead at this point to finish in a resounding 26th place overall (out of 246 competitors), a sensational performance. James held tough in the run to finish 65th, with Remy in 89th, Clancy 111th (and a much improved run), Hamish in 113th and Albertus despite experiencing painful stomach cramps in the run, still crossed the line 149th.

This weekend a group will head to Port Macquarie for a NSW Triathlon Talent ID camp on Saturday, before the whole triathlon group compete at the Armidale Club race on Sunday.

**Mr James Pennington**  
**MIC Athletics**



# FROM THE CREATIVE ARTS COORDINATOR

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On top of everything else it is a busy time for excursions here in the Creative Arts. The HSC and Year 11 Drama students headed to Sydney for four days to see some amazing pieces of theatre, to be inspired for the Individual Projects and Group Performances, and have some intensive time on their class topics. The Australian Theatre for Young People's *Intersections: Chrysalis* was a tremendous exhibition of the professional work young actors are capable of, in part thanks to the masterful work by the director Rachel Chant, who grew up in Armidale and studied Theatre at UNE. At The Hayes Theatre the students were floored by the powerful and beautiful new musical *The View UpStairs* and at Belvoir St Theatre they were given an incredible instruction on the actor's craft at the hand's of Noni Hazlehurst in her one-woman show *Mother*. And of course OnSTAGE was an outstanding demonstration of what is possible in HSC Drama and left the students both excited and a little daunted.

Yesterday the Stage 5 Music classes attended Bravissimo in Port Macquarie, a showcase of regional excellence from the 2017 HSC Music performances. As those students start looking towards their Senior years it is great for them to see what the top standard of performances look like and set themselves lofty challenges for their work.

Later on in the term the Stage 6 and Year 10 Music students will be headed to watch the *Encore* showcase at the Opera House where they will see the top Music pieces from the 2017 HSC. Sam Thatcher was nominated for Encore last year and so it is with great pride that we will be able to attend that performance evening and know that the work being created by TAS students is being considered at that prestigious level.

I'd like to thank all the staff for the time they invest in planning and running these activities for our students, it takes a lot of work to put these opportunities together and I know how much our students get out of it and the assistance it has as they prepare for their major works and performances.

A reminder that *The Addams Family* is on sale through the Hoskins Centre website. Go to [hoskins.as.edu.au](http://hoskins.as.edu.au) and follow the event links to book your tickets - don't be late, you'll be mortified (mortician-ified?) if you miss out.

Lastly, my apologies on the delay of the Middle School Production announcement - the company who manages the licenses for the shows misplaced our application so we are desperately waiting for them to re-process things so we can announce the show and auditions. So watch this space!



Mr Andrew O'Connell



# MUSIC MATTERS

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## **BRAVISSIMO 2018!**

On Tuesday the Year 9 and 10 Elective Music students travelled with Ms Leanne Roobol and Mrs Bekk Baumgartner to Port Macquarie to attend the annual Bravissimo Concert at The Glasshouse. The concert showcased some of the best 2017 HSC Music performances chosen from around 35 schools in the North West of NSW. Congratulations to Ziggy Harris who was selected to play in this year's event.

Ziggy, who achieved Band 6 results in Music 2 and Music Extension performed 'Danse Espagnole' from 'la Vida Breve' by Manuel de Falla. He was accompanied by former TAS Director of Music, Mrs Deidre Rickards. Ziggy's performance was sophisticated and virtuosic displaying stylistic intent and technical skill. The audience was highly appreciative of Ziggy's performance. We wish Ziggy all the best as he heads off to study at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.



Ziggy Harris (OA-2017)

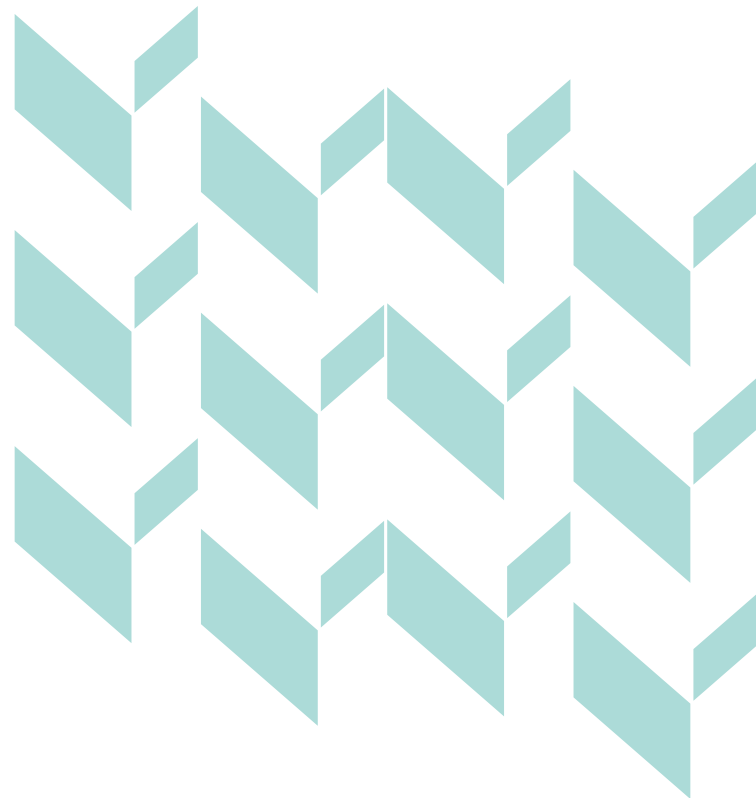
## **Twilight Concerts**

There will be two Twilight Concerts in Term 1. The first Twilight Concert will be held on Thursday 1 March (Week 5) in Big School commencing at 6:00pm.

The number of performers will be limited to 20, to keep the concert to a manageable length.

Music tutors have been asked to register any students who are ready to perform for the first concert and to notify parents to confirm their availability. For those students needing piano accompaniment, rehearsals will be held the afternoon of the concert. A schedule will be sent out during the week of the concert, notifying those students of their rehearsal time.

***Ms Leanne Roobol***  
***Director of Music***





## Parent Information Sessions on Thursday 15

Parents are strongly advised to attend, to meet Homeroom staff and, indeed, one another prior to attending War Cries. Prior to the War Cries in the pool area at 6:30pm, refreshments will be served by staff and members of our Prefect body so that you have a good chance to meet members of the wider TAS community.

## Swimming Carnival -16 February War Cries - Thursday 15

As indicated above, this is a very important event on our school calendar. We want to see you and your children, so many of whom are new to school, probably need to see you. They've achieved much that is good over the past three weeks and, I suspect, want to tell you this is person. Boarders can then spend the weekend with you if this can be arranged – if you can, then please do it as they're bound to want to talk to you.

## Year 7 lunch with the Headmaster start today.

Mr and Mrs Guest have lunch with all Year 7 students at the beginning of each year in groups of 10 and it's such a good way for people to get to know one another. Some students have been nervous about seeing the Headmaster so early in the year. Please advise your children that they're not in strife because they are going to see the Guests – they're going to eat and talk, that's all.

## Town Meeting: Topics discussed

Students asked not to bounce down the stairs. They're young, your children, and it's easy not to be fully aware of the needs and interests of those of us who 'reside' downstairs. Our offices are downstairs and we work best when lesson changes are done with the least 'surround sound'.

Headmaster's Lunch for Year 7 starts this week. Students must be in formals and meet at MS office at 12:25

Mobile phones: Students advised NO mobile phones in class and lunch, especially in the Dining Hall.

Year 8 Round Square exchange: any students interested need to contact Mr Mark Harrison and Mr Luke Polson

Swimming Carnival: be up ready to participate and support one another

Uniform: Boys: Socks, remember keep them up – garters help

Girls: No ankle socks when wearing uniform; no jewellery

**Mr Mark Harrison**  
**Head of Middle School**



Mr Mark Harrison

## Middle School Information Night 5:00 - 5:30pm

Middle School staff are all looking forward to having the opportunity to meet with parents and introduce them to their child's classroom, their Homeroom teacher and the routines and structures that make up life in Middle School. It is a chance to put faces to names at the start of a your journey through Middle School.

Given there is only half an hour available before everyone then heads outside for refreshments and War Cries (and a walk through of the new girls boarding house for anyone interested), a more detailed session on the introduction of the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program into TAS Middle School will be held on Friday 16 March at the conclusion of the year 6 and 7 parent teacher interviews. This will be the chance for Rachel Harrison, our IB co ordinator to explain what the IB is and how we will be implementing it into Middle School. More information will be sent to parents closer to the time.

## Junior School Swimming Championships

Thursday will be another very special day for all our families as we come together for our Swimming Championships. As always, we rely heavily on the assistance from our parent body to help us and from years of experience, with our younger students also participating in water activities, I can tell you it is a lot of fun. Yesterday, the students all rehearsed their war cries and they are very excited about the day. We allow students to dress up for the day but within reason, it should be fun but please nothing that might mark the carpet in the Sports Centre (zinc, crepe paper) and no writing on bodies.

We hope you can all join us – even if it is only for a short time. Lunch for parents and helpers will be provided from around 12:15 pm in the Junior School playground and we hope to see you there.

## House Leaders elected

I would like to congratulate our newly elected House leaders as they begin their duties this week. After speaking (very impressively) about their leadership aspirations, students voted and staff conferred before the final selection was presented for this semester. Another round of voting will occur in Term 2 when other Year 5 students will have the opportunity to join their ranks as well.

Part of the Leadership training will be to attend the GRIP Leadership course in Armidale with many other students from most other primary schools in the area. It has been a wonderful way to kick start out leadership program in the past and I look forward to this leading into a more active SRC this year.

The House Leaders are - Broughton House: Millie Coupland, Flinders Ward; Green House: Lachie Litchfield, Ty Schalk-O'Brien; Ross House: Sam Strelitz, Paige Sutton.

## Junior School Assemblies

Each week a class hosts the weekly Junior School Assembly, an opportunity to join as a school to recognise and celebrate achievements in and around our School. We welcome all our parents and friends along to these assemblies but especially when your child's class is hosting. The structure of our assemblies this year will encourage performances and the active sharing of our classroom work in a lively and exciting way. We hope you will be able to join us from time to time.

## School Spirit awards

After due consideration, Junior School is aligning its awards system more closely to the International Baccalaureate programme and its PYP Learner Profile. TAS Junior School believe that happy students are more engaged, motivated and successful at school. We actively seek a balance between the acquisition of essential knowledge and skills, the development of conceptual understanding, the demonstration of positive attitudes and the taking of responsible action. Considerate use of appropriate reward systems recognises and acknowledges students' efforts, contributions and achievements and encourages students to become independent, active and life-long learners.



Mr Ian Lloyd

## 1. Individual & House Awards

These orally presented awards, are to be given to individuals for specific instances of positive social and academic behaviour or production, as determined by the Junior School teachers. These House Points may be given by classroom and specialist teachers and are not limited to in-class activities. Students will record their House Points in class, to form the weekly House totals which will then be tallied for each assembly for presentation to the winning House. They are also tallied on a cumulative basis for the overall Champion House Cup, presented at Speech Day.

## 2. Classroom Awards - Merit Certificates

Merit Certificates are to be awarded by the classroom teacher (or through recommendation by Specialist teachers) to recognise and celebrate individual student achievement within the class and reflect the Essential Elements (Knowledge, Concepts, Skills, Attitudes and Action) of the PYP Program. Merit awards are specifically for classroom effort and achievement, engagement with the conceptual basis of the classroom programme and/or demonstrations of Skills, Attitudes and Actions.

These awards are to be presented in class. There are to be no restrictions as to when and how often Merit Awards are to be handed out, however, teachers will be expected to award each child with at least two awards per term for Transition, Kindergarten, Years 1 and 2, whilst teachers in Years 3, 4 and 5 will be expected to award at least one per term to each class member. A written record of these awards will be kept by the classroom teacher as a record of student achievement. Awards may be presented by the class teacher, a member of executive or an appropriate external presenter (eg guest speaker).

### 3. Assembly Awards - School Spirit Awards

The aims of the School Spirit Awards are to acknowledge and reward outstanding engagement and significant achievement in the School's PYP Programme and/or exemplary demonstration of one or more attributes of the IB Learner Profile.

The award will be named after one of the PYP attributes and include a short citation, using the following as a guide:

**Inquirer** - developing natural curiosity; acquiring skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research; showing independence in learning; demonstrating and active love of learning

**Knowledgeable** - exploring concepts, ideas and issues; acquiring deep knowledge; developing clear understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines

**Thinker** - exercising initiative; applying thinking skills critically and creatively, embracing complex problems; making reasoned, ethical decisions

**Communicator** – expressing ideas and concepts confidently; using a variety of modes of communication; collaborating with others

**Principled** – acting with integrity and honesty; displaying a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect; taking responsibility for actions; accepting consequences

#### WEEK 3

Wednesday 14 February

Thursday 15 February

#### WEEK 4

Wednesday 21 February

Thursday 22 February

#### WEEK 5

Wednesday 28 February

#### WEEK 6

Monday to Friday

Year 4VW & 4AF Assembly –  
Hoskins Centre 2.45 pm  
Junior School Swimming Carnival

Year 3 Assembly – Hoskins Centre  
2.45pm  
PSSA Swimming Carnival,  
Town Pool

Activities Day

Excursion Week

**Open-Minded** – Understanding and appreciating their own culture and heritage; accepting of other perspectives values and traditions; seeking a range of other ideas and opinions; embracing change

**Caring** - demonstrating empathy, compassion and respect; committing to personal service; acting to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment

**Risk Taker** - approaching unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought; displaying the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies; demonstrating courage when defending their beliefs

**Balanced** – understanding the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance; striving for personal well-being for themselves and others

**Reflective** – giving thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience; assessing and understand their strengths and limitations; actively pursuing their own learning and personal development

**Mr Ian Lloyd**  
**Head of Junior School**

#### Happy Birthday

Again we only have one Junior School student celebrating his birthday this week, so a big Happy Birthday wish goes to **Sonny Blanch**.

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## JUNIOR SCHOOL BOOK CLUB

Welcome to those families who have just started at TAS, and welcome back to those returning for another year of school – a year which we hope will be full of lots of reading! Our world is certainly changing in the area of communication, but the place of books and the ability to read fluently is still essential to a person's independence, success and personal fulfilment. Once again, our school will be participating in the Scholastic Book Club. Scholastic brochures are sent home with students twice a term. Scholastic will continue to issue only one catalogue that will contain a different selection of books spanning a wide range of children's reading and interests, as well as a wide range of prices.

Ordering and payment for Scholastic can be done in two ways. Firstly you can order and pay for your books via the Scholastic LOOP system. You can place your child's order at [scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://scholastic.com.au/LOOP) or using the LOOP app. Payment for your order can then be made by credit card. The books are delivered to school and then sent home with your child. Ordering and payment can also be made by filling out the order form that can be found at the back of the brochure, enclosing the form and your cheque in an envelope and placing it in the red letter box which can be found in the Junior School reception.

The Scholastic Book Club platform also contains a gift function which allows you to tag items on your Book Club LOOP order that are intended as a surprise gift. Items marked as a gift will be delivered to school with all other Book Club orders, however will be marked accordingly so that Library staff can set them aside and arrange collection with you.

**Orders from the current Scholastic brochure should be placed by Friday 22 February, 2017.**

Please remember that we are unable to accept cash as payment for any book club orders. Notices will appear in TAS Talks regarding the closing dates for orders. Our school will also receive 20 per cent in rewards from Scholastic that we can redeem for books and teaching materials for use in the Library and Junior School, however there is never any obligation to order.

Should you require any assistance, please call into the Library, or contact by email is [nramazan@as.edu.au](mailto:nramazan@as.edu.au).

***Mrs Natalie Ramazani***  
***Library Assistant***



All year groups have commenced their new Units Of Inquiry under various Transdisciplinary Themes. Each year group covers specific elements of the themes.

The table below provides a summary of the themes each class is working under, along with the “Big Idea”, which is known as the “Central Idea”. The central idea is explored through key and related concepts.

**Mrs Veronica Waters**  
**PYP Coordinator**

Year Group	Trans disciplinary Theme	Central Idea	Key concepts
Transition	Who We Are	Learning takes place in different environments	Function Connection Responsibility
Kindergarten	Who We Are	Everyday we learn more about who we are and what we can do.	Form Perspective Connection
Year 1	Where We Are in Place and Time	Family structures and roles have changed or remained the same over time	Change Perspective Reflective
Year 2	Sharing The Planet	People can establish practices in order to sustain and maintain the Earth's resources.	Causation Responsibility Connection
Year 3	Sharing The Planet	Living things need to adapt in order to survive	Change Connection Function
Year 4	Who We Are	Cultural backgrounds influence beliefs, values and actions.	Connection Perspective Causation
Year 5	How We Organise Ourselves	Systems and decisions can promote or deny equal opportunity and social justice.	Function Responsibility Perspective



Year 4 students research Chinese New Year using key concepts.



## Junior School Swimming Carnival

All nominations are now in and races have been finalised. We are looking forward to a fun filled swimming carnival this Thursday. We are expecting a very warm day in the pool area, so please ensure your child has plenty of water for the day in their bag. (An extra water bottle with frozen water is always a good idea).

Children are required to come dressed to school in their House coloured t-shirts for this event. Swimmers may be worn under their sports uniform for ease of changing ready for events. Our day commences promptly at 9:00am with the Open 200IM girls and boys event.

Please see the attached Program of Events for the day. Times for breaks will be as followed, however, these times can alter slightly due to the nature of the day.

Recess: 10:30-11:00am  
Lunch: 12:15-1:00pm

**Carnival Program** ( Please click to view)

If you are willing to help at our Swimming Carnival with timekeeping please let Mrs Wright know before the day by emailing her on: [cwright@as.edu.au](mailto:cwright@as.edu.au)

**Mrs Christine Wright**  
**Junior School Sports Coordinator**

## Gymnastics

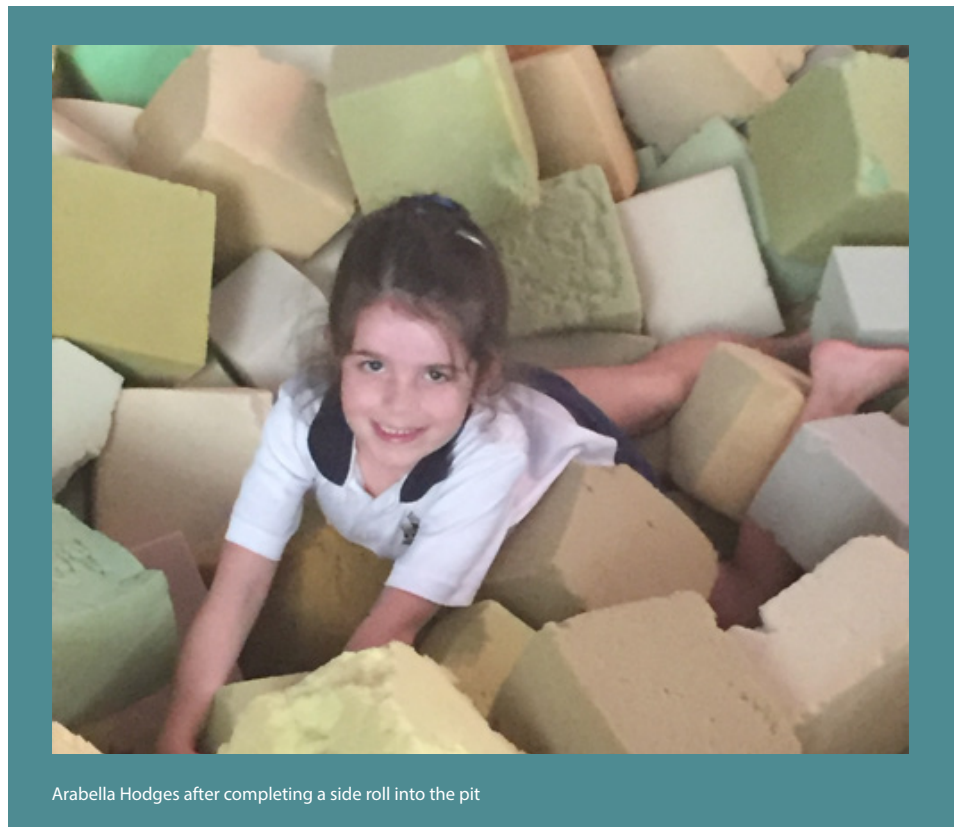
Even a hot afternoon could not dampen the gymnastic team's enthusiasm!

We started the afternoon with a warm-up routine consisting of cartwheels; log rolls, and side rolls into the pit.

Then it was onto our four rotations. The children completed three challenges on the beam bars. They learnt how to synchronise their feet demonstrating a springing action in pairs. The third activity was parallel bars springs with the final activity saw the children using the tumble tramp.

The well deserved cool down saw the children complete a variety of front support stances.

**Mrs Lana Hawksford**



Arabella Hodges after completing a side roll into the pit



## Pottery with Rick Hatch

I trust that you have all had a refreshing holiday and are inspired and enthusiastic to work with clay. As you know, the goal of our classes is to make great work in clay while developing our visual and manual skills and HAVING LOTS OF FUN!

I got lots of ideas from last year's students and have based our first project on their ideas. I will explain it all when we start in two weeks. The info is as follows:

**Where:** Classes are held in Art Room 1 of the Hoskins Centre at TAS. This is the ground floor room on the left as you enter.

**Who:** Years K-5 are on Tuesdays from 4- 5 pm

**When:** Years 5 and up are on Thursdays from 4 - 5 pm

These age divisions are a guide only. If you need your child to come on a different day that these guidelines, it is not a problem, just talk to me about it.

Also, please note that children are welcome to arrive straight after school ends, We have great fun setting up for the class together.

### Commencement:

Tuesday 6 February

Thursday 8 February

We will have five lessons, then a one week break for firing (Tuesday 15 March, Thursday 17 March), Then a party and exhibition on Tuesday 20 March and Thursday 22 March.

Cost is \$135. This includes instruction, material and firing costs.

To enrol or for further information please email on [weemalapot@yahoo.com.au](mailto:weemalapot@yahoo.com.au) or ring me on 6772 537. Please include your child's name and age and your contact phone number.

### Rick Hatch



Exciting news for 2018! NECOM is running a K-2 Music class on Mondays from 4-4:45pm. Lots of fun music activities - singing, movement and the beginnings of the Kodaly methodology.

Nicole Mackson is a local music and primary teacher, well known to the children in several NECOM programs. She accompanies the Minisingers in the choral program and provides Kodaly-based activities and accompaniment for the Puddledock strings.

**Enrol now for this new program of musical excitement!  
Contact NECOM on 6788 2135 for more information.**