Toormina High School held a photo booth on Friday, 20th March, the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. Staff began the day showing all classes a short video and having discussion time to build student’s understanding about bullying and to discuss issues relating to cyber bullying. Students and staff wrote messages and dressed up for photos which are now displayed in the school foyer.
Annette Heinrich has worked as a School Administration Assistant at Toormina High School since July, 2002. After 13 years service at our school, Annette will retire at the end of this term. Annette has worked in many roles in the school office, library and roll office and will be missed by her colleagues. On behalf of the Toormina High School students and staff we wish Annette every happiness for the future.

Linda Berry - School Administration Manager

———

Name...Annette Heinrich
THS position...SASS
The high school I attended was...St Mary's High School, Wollongong.
On weekends I enjoy...the beach during summer and watching grandchildren play sports during winter.
I love...travelling and seeing new places, and I love salty chips.
I don't like...bought sweet biscuits.
When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me to...start saving for my retirement.

Name...Linda Berry
THS Position...School Administration Manager
The high school I attended was... Ballina High School.
On weekends I enjoy...relaxing.
I love... my family.
I don't like...bullies and bad behaviour.
When I was a teenager I wish someone told me...that hard work beats talent everytime!

Name...Kathy Addesso
THS Position...SAO
The high school I attended was... Ashcroft High School.
On weekends I enjoy...doing whatever comes along.
I love...chocolate, can't you tell :) I don't like...rude people.
When I was a teenager I wish someone told me...how to become rich.

Name...Jennifer Parker
THS Position...SAO, Rolls Office, Attendance
The high school I attended was...Parramatta High School.
On weekends I enjoy...shopping, shopping, lunch, shopping.
I love...spending time with family.
I don't like... rude people
When I was a teenager I wish someone told me... follow your dreams and aim to make them reality.

Name...Yvonne Klepzig
THS Position...SASS Library Assistant
The high school I attended was...Wellington High School in central NSW.
On weekends I enjoy...riding my push bike, aqua-aerobics, seeing friends, going to the movies, gardening and volunteer activities with the Coffs Harbour Lions Club.
I love...my little dog Zsa Zsa, painting and books of course.
I don't like...people who are violent and think yelling at others is ok.
When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me...after every fall in life, you just have to dust yourself off and start climbing that mountain again. Taking little steps in the mountain's direction, is a good start.

Name...Alina Hill
THS Position... School Administration Officer
The high school I attended was...Toormina High.
On weekends I enjoy...spending time with my family and friends.
I love... to keep fit.
I don't like...having to share my last rolo.
When I was a teenager I wish someone told me... make the most of what you've got.

Name...Judith Kelly
THS Position...SASS - Home Science Assistant
The high school I attended was...Bellingen High School.
On weekends I enjoy...gardening (I have a very large garden), having a coffee some where.
I love...friendly, happy people - life is too short, enjoy every minute you can.
I don't like...rudeness, disrespect (of people and property).
When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me...to pursue my possible career (architectural drawing), then hopes and dreams would have become more possible. I have now had a great career at THS for the past 15 years.
Name...Liz Davis  
Position...S.A.O  
Science Faculty  
The high school I attended was...  
Northmead High School.  
On weekends I enjoy...walking on the beach and camping.  
I love...time with family and friends and travelling overseas.  
I don't like...conflict, injustice and the suffering that's occurring around the world.  
When I was a teenager I wish someone told me...to listen more and work harder at school and make the most of the opportunities that come your way.

Name...Gillian Kelly  
THS Position...  
Back Desk, Photo Copy Room, First Aid  
The high school I attended was...  
Bellingen High.  
On weekends I enjoy...camping & sewing.  
I love...spending time with family & caravanning.  
I don't like...non secure prints being sent to photo copiers!  
When I was a teenager I wish someone told me...to listen to my parents & pay attention at school.

Name...Lorraine Ross  
THS Position...Executive Assistant  
The high school I attended was...  
Bankstown Girls High School.  
On weekends I enjoy...relaxing and enjoying the Coffs Coast.  
I love...enjoying life.  
I don't like...people who don't have manners or respect.  
When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me...how difficult it is in the outside world.

Name...Cherie Brunke  
THS Position...School Administration Officer  
The high school I attended was...Maryborough Girls' High School, Qld.  
On weekends I enjoy...playing cards with my grandson and reading.  
I love...family, friends, BBQ's, books, holidays and movies.  
I don't like...rudeness.  
When I was a teenager I wish someone told me....always look on the bright side of life, tee da....

Name...Marcia O'Sullivan  
THS Position...Community Liaison Officer  
The High School I attended was...Orara High.  
On weekends I enjoy...being underwater.  
I love...my family (and I have a baby granddaughter, Polly!), travelling, art, books, the beach, learning new stuff, yoga, coffee, mangoes, Billy Bragg, long lunches........etc  
I don't like...phonies...and the lack of commitment to approve all of the Gonski reforms and adequately fund ALL schools.  
When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me...to be ambitious, to dream big.  
Also, that exercise actually makes you feel good (who knew! took me a long time to find that out) and that the most simple, everyday pleasures are treasures.

Name...Janelle Bailey  
THS Position...SAO  
The high school I attended was...  
Gunnedah High School.  
On weekends I enjoy...family & friends, taking my kids to their various sports, reading, cooking, movies.  
I love...chocolate, of course! Sunrise, exercise, coffee, autumn weather, listening to my son practice the trumpet, girly chat.....the list goes on.  
I don't like...the words 'I can't'.  
When I was a teenager I wish someone told me...everyone has their own version of success. Don't be afraid to find your own.  
When you need help, see Dr Seuss!

Name...Sarah Kate Horn  
THS Position...School Administration Officer  
The high school I attended was...Christian Community College  
On weekends I enjoy...spending time with my beautiful daughter and my close family and friends.  
I love...being a mum, to lay down with good book and a strong cup of tea, happy positive people.  
I don't like...people crushing the spirit of others, we should all lift one another up...and snakes and spiders.  
When I was a teenager I wish someone told me...life is harder than you think, keep your dignity and have integrity because bad things happen to good people.  
A handful of real people in your life is better than a million 'friends'.
THS INDOOR CRICKET TEAM WIN AGAIN!

Five out of the last 6 years has seen Toormina High School inscribed on the District Interschool Indoor Cricket trophy. Let’s just say we lent it to Jetty High last year as this year the boys proudly reclaimed the title undefeated.

The team included: Jarod Reeves (C), Charlie Towells, Damion Dumas, Jamie Bridges, Keeden Corliss, Haydn Smallwood, Travis Lee, David Schutt, Josh Dorn and Geoff Devoy.

Games of note included our first against Jetty, whom the boys thought they had pegged after comfortably overtaking their score with 3 overs left. In the blink of an eye, the unthinkable! The batting pair had lost several quick wickets and were minus 11 (you lose 5 points per wicket). We could lose! The team rallied with fantastic and vocal support to claw back and win!

We moved through the rounds undefeated, and in the final, batting last against CCS, our last pair of batsmen needed 45 runs which had only been accomplished once or twice all day. Jarod and Haydn elected not to ‘smash’ as they had done in previous innings but to play safe and smart, tapping the ball and getting a quick single each ball. They stuck to their plan despite the pressure and inched their way past CCS in the last over to bring the trophy back home.

I was proud to stand alongside the boys with their good sportsmanship and team spirit. Congratulations!

Brad Poidevin - Team Coach

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

As Term 1 draws to a close and we all look forward to quality time with loved ones, it may be a good time to look at resources. Do your children have the equipment they need for next term? Are their pencil cases still operational? Do they have pens, pencils, highlighters, ruler, erasers, scissors, glue, calculator, a separate book for every subject and subject specific requirements? The term break is an excellent opportunity to replenish student’s needs so they are ready for Term 2.

Enjoy your holiday, Leanne Firkins - Support Teacher
VISUAL ARTS

Year eight have just started their year in the stage 4 Visual Arts course. Each group is doing a term in one of our specialist areas. These areas include: Ceramics with Mr Francis, Design with Miss Bluhm and Drawing & Painting with Ms McAuley.

Year 8 are really engaged and ready to experiment with lots of new materials. Billy Briggenshaw (pictured) is in the Drawing and Painting group. This group have learnt about pencils, drawing, shading and painting with watercolours. Billy’s large major work of a labrador is an excellent example of the high standard shown and the effort students have given to finishing their works, even extending into their lunch time.

Anna McAuley - Head Teacher CAPA

CREST UPDATE

The CREST Senior Mentoring program has been well supported by both students and staff this term and now has 18 year 12 and 7 year 11 students regularly receiving 1:1 or small group mentoring.

Below are comments from some of these students:

‘Crest has helped me improve my language, essay structure and grammar. I’ve gained knowledge on how to plan my time and study efficiently.’

Trung Bui, year 12

‘I feel as if I’m finding more interesting ways to study and write essays.’

Gypsy Musumeci, year 11

‘I have obtained a greater understanding of how to improve my results and CREST has been very helpful in expanding my skills for the HSC year’.

Grace Koppman, year 12

‘Crest has helped me improve my essay structure significantly. I feel much more prepared to go into my exams’.

Nathan Watt, year 12

‘It has really helped with my planning and written structure. I have gained skill for the HSC and improved my class results’.

Emily Taylor, year 12

After a busy term our senior students are now looking forward to the holidays. For Year 12, this comes after their exams, so I’d like to wish all students success over the coming exam period.

Cheers
Julie Roberts
HT- Teaching & Learning

GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

THS year 11 student, Cameron Pollard, recently competed in the North Coast CHS Golf Championship at Yamba. Cameron scored ‘Nearest the Pin’ on the third hole. Congratulations Cameron!

SRC REPORT

This term the Student Representative Council has worked extremely hard to put together two very successful fundraising efforts.

The school social came first, with students having just over a week to pull it together and ticket sales exceeded expectations. The second was a mufti day held during week 9, with staff and students digging deep to raise considerable funds. Money raised through these events is being used to purchase a Shelter Box for the displaced people of Vanuatu. A great number of homes were destroyed during the catastrophic event of Cyclone Pam. The Shelter Box sleeps 12 people so will assist in housing people until they are able to rebuild. The Rotary Club of Coffs Harbour Daybreak is matching the efforts of Toormina High and will be sending another tent also.

SRC Coordinators
Tanya Cheers, Adrienne Gillingham and Gregory Driscoll

THS UNIFORM SHOP

will be closed during the school holidays
KOKODA CHALLENGE, Toormina High School Team

The Toormi Thunder Team above are entering the Jim Stillman Cup held on the Gold Coast in July. This Kokoda Challenge is a gruelling cross country course which is half the distance of the infamous Kokoda Track. The course challenges high school students emotionally and physically as they traverse 48 km along fire trails, cross creeks and summit 5,000 metres of vertical elevation (all within the time limit of 39 hours). Toormi Thunder hope to complete the course in 15 hours non-stop!!! The goal of the Jim Stillman participants is to finish as a team in honor of the spirit forged on the Kokoda Track in 1942 by showing courage, endurance, mateship and sacrifice. Money is raised for programs run by the Kokoda Youth Foundation. Any one who is interested in making a donation to this worthy cause can contact Sheridan Watkins at the school.

Photo above shows our team training at Crossmaglen. Team consists of year 9 students Hannah Bake, Chloe Rann, teacher/supervisor Sheridan Watkins, Zyla Steele and Hunter Bake-Smith.

CAREERS

Up coming events:
- OH&S General Induction for Construction, White Card training day held at Toormina High School on Friday the 1st of May 2015. Cost $100.
- Defence Force Talks held at Toormina High School on Friday the 15th of May.
- Year 10 Careers Expo held at Coffs Harbour Racing Club on Thursday the 21st of May.
- Year 10 Work Experience Dates Term 3, Week 3, July 27-31 and Term 4, Week 9, November 30th - 4th of December. Students will need to start thinking about where they would like to do work experience and start researching appropriate businesses to approach.

For more information on any of the up coming events please see Mrs West or Mr Francis in the Careers Office.

Principal’s Column

Dear Parents,

School will resume for students on Tuesday, 21st April, 2015. I understand that there is no public holiday for ANZAC Day this year as it falls on a Saturday. Lil Ross and Justin Pryce, our School Captains, are delivering the Sawtell Anzac Day address on this 100th anniversary and have our appreciation for their preparation and representation.

It has been a great term with many of our students enjoying their Rewards Excursion on the last day. Students have raised funds for a Shelter Box to be sent to Vanuatu over the past two weeks and this will be matched by the Rotary Club of Coffs Harbour Daybreak, so we will be providing accommodation and support for up to 20 people who suffered from the cyclone. I congratulate all our students who value social responsibility and who contribute to our citizenship efforts by supporting such causes.

I wish you all well during the holiday break. Please contact me if I can be of help in any way.

Best wishes,
E. Donnan

THS Lucky Draw
WIN A LAPTOP!

Statements of account for student voluntary contributions have been mailed out. Any enquiries regarding these please ring the school office.

Pay by the end of Semester One, June 26 &
YOUR NAME
WILL BE IN THE DRAW TO
WIN ONE OF 3 LAPTOPS!
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Our English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EALD) students shared the celebration of Nowruz, the Afghan New Year with students and staff. The students prepared the festivities, with the help of their teacher, Gaye Devoy and SLSO, Barb White. They invited students and staff to join them to learn more about their culture and share food during this important day. The students explain their roles in the New Year activities below.

I did an acknowledgement of country and welcomed everyone to our celebration. I was so happy, that is so fun for me.
Sediqeh Mosavi

I read the Quran for 2 minutes and I wanted to show you always we read Quran after beginning New Year before doing anything else.
Seyed Ali

I made a powerpoint for Nowruz and I wore special dress because I wanted to show you some of Afghanistan's culture.
Nasimeh Ghorbani

I explained something about one of the traditions and values of my country, Afghanistan, and I hope you enjoyed that. I’m so glad that you all paid attention and were interested in our presentation.
Fereshteh Ghodsi
REGIONAL SPORT REPRESENTATIVES

THS has had many students representing our school zone in sport recently. The following students have been selected for regional teams.

Sarah Bailey, Brodie Elkins-Baker and Catarina Gordon all went to Homebush for the State CHS Swimming Championships last week, Catarina is on the short list to go to Nationals for the 800m Freestyle and the 400m Individual Medley.

Photographed above are Damien Dickson and Jayden Kitchener-Waters, representatives for our region in Australian Rules. Jayden is also a regional rep for touch football, as are Nara Donovan and Alaya Donovan.

Tyke Kemp has been chosen for rugby league and Bodhi Wickliffe for basketball. Congratulations and good luck!

SPIRIT OF TOORMINA AWARDS

Congratulations for showing a fantastic attitude that embodies the Toormina High School philosophy of caring, sharing and participating...

Cliff Abel
Hayden Castle
Jamie Bridges
Makayla Barry
Aleighsha Swan
Tyler Wake
William Meyrick
Sue Flick
Amanda Clifford.

On left, Sarah Bailey, Brodie Elkins-Baker and Catarina Gordon, above Tyke Kemp and Bodhi Wickliffe.
On right Cliff Abel receiving his Spirit of Toormina Award from Mrs Donnan.
YARNING ON AT THS

‘Yarning On’ is an informal morning tea held twice a term at Toormina High for Aboriginal families, parents and community members. Dates for upcoming Yarn Ons will be in our school newsletter, an invitation to all is extended from the THS Aboriginal Education Team.

Judith Peen - Aboriginal Education Officer

LINKS TO LEARNING

A small group of Year 9 and 10 girls have been attending Links to Learning this term at Coffs Coast Community College.

Tahlia Trimboli was recently interviewed by NBN news in which she discussed the outcomes for her as a result of participating in Links to Learning. These include increased confidence and self esteem, development of short and long term personal goals and improving her skills in reading, writing and maths.

Laura Ryan - Head Teacher Welfare

DONATE YOURSELF TO LANDCARE

Kinchela Reserve Landcare Group

Volunteering Days: Every second Sunday of every month

Where: Kinchela Reserve

Activities: Planting, weeding and bush regeneration (all tools supplied)

What to bring: Sun protection, covered shoes and water

For more information or to join contact: Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare
Phone: Mon- Thurs 66511308 OR call Helen (Co-ordinator) on 66532015

COFFS HARBOUR SOUTH
ROTARY
BOOKFEST

11-18 APRIL 2015
at Coffs Harbour Showground
National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2015

LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2015 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 12-14 May 2015.

<table>
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<th>TUESDAY 12 MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 13 MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 14 MAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
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In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 15 May – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if they:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/PARENT_Carer_support/index.html.
RE: PERTUSSIS (WHOOPING COUGH)

The North Coast Public Health Unit (Port Macquarie) has been notified of a student diagnosed with whooping cough who attends Toormina High School. Whooping cough (Pertussis) is a bacterial respiratory infection that can be serious in young children particularly those aged less than two years.

Please be on the lookout for symptoms of whooping cough:

- Persistent cough in the late afternoon or early even greater than three days
  - Runny nose, followed by a cough, which becomes worse (older children and adults may have only a cough that can last for several months)
  - A cough that occurs in spasms, which may be followed by vomiting
  - A cough with a ‘whoop’ (a sudden noisy gasp at the end of coughing)

In order to prevent further cases, if your child or any member of your family has symptoms of whooping cough please see your doctor and take this notice with you. This is extremely important if there is a baby less than 12 months of age living in the household. Pertussis can be a serious life-threatening infection for babies.

If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in its early infectious stage (within 3 weeks of the cough starting), please notify the school office and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics.

Immunisation reduces the risk of infection, however the vaccine does not give lifelong protection, and reinfection can occur. The vaccine is provided free of charge for infants at 2, 4 and 6 months and again at 4 years (the first dose can be given as early as 6 weeks of age). Please check that your child has received their primary course. If your child has not been fully immunised, discuss a catch-up plan with your doctor.

NSW Health provides a free School Vaccination Program to all Year 7 students and a whooping cough vaccine is included in the program. Ask your child for the information kit sent home recently or contact the school office.

Disability Advocacy NSW and Parents Pack a Punch invite you to the

Education Hub Opening
Thursday 2nd April, 10am

People with a disability, parents and carers are invited to “drop in” to the Education Hub to informally discuss issues they are facing and to connect with others in a similar situation. The Education Hub will operate every month on the first Thurs of the month.

Parents and Advocates will be available to talk to you on an informal level on the day.

The purpose of the Education Hub is to create a contact point where people with a Disability, parents and carers can connect together and share information and experience.