THS has invested a significant amount of financial and human resources into supporting junior students who require extra support to lift their literacy skills. This program ensures students who have not yet reached their full potential do so before entering the critical senior years of schooling.

All aspects of the student’s literacy skills are consolidated with a particular emphasis placed on reading. Each student in the program is assessed and provided with an individually tailored program. The program is then delivered on a daily basis, by a trained tutor.

The school has been extremely fortunate in being able to employ Southern Cross University Education students Corey Adam, Emma Goddard and Zac Williams. Also, Aunty Vicki Filewood, a trained teacher and respected Gumbaynggirr community elder as well as Aunty Karen Miranda another highly respected and experienced elder.

The program is already showing results with some student’s skills improving significantly in only a few weeks.

Sue Winsor - Program Coordinator
Student Representative Council 2015
Congratulations to our student representatives for 2015. Presidents are Cody Bland and April Smith with vice presidents, Nathan Pollitt and Anna Minton.

Year representatives are: Ryan Gilchrist, Rachel Holm, Ee Ee Nuon, Zara Saxby, Amanda Casey, Georgia Elliot, Melanie Hughes, Jenna Stevenson, Tori Rose, Jaimie-Lee Buck, Ethan Bulled, Jasmyn Newcombe, Kylani Rann, Trae Rerekura, Zyla Steele, Nara Donavan, Kaitlyn Bland, Natalie Hawkins, Sequana Hogan, Finley Lewis, Taitum Browne, Iraia Connors, Hayden Castle, Fereshteh Ghodsi, Innocent Mbuto, Isabella Pitt, Gypsy Musumeci, Tyler Eather and Ashlea Watkins.
Introducing more of the THS Support Staff...

Name... Ken Haase  
THS Position... Support Teacher (Hearing)  
The high school I attended was... Nambour High.  
On weekends I enjoy... beach and sleep.  
I love... weekends.  
I don’t like... custard.  
When I was a teenager I wish someone told me... the harder you work at school the more opportunities you’ll have in life. (They probably did but what teenager listens?)

Name...Steph Boorman  
THS Position...Support Teacher (Hearing)  
The high school I attended was... Orara High School (I have just moved back to Coffs after many years in Qld).  
On the weekends I enjoy...getting outside and relaxing.  
I love...books, nature, and trying new things.  
I don’t like...being around negative people and bullying.  
When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me... to be comfortable within myself and not worry about what others think and do.

Name...Corey Adam  
THS Position...Literacy Tutor  
The high school I attended was... Toormina High School!  
On the weekends I enjoy...scuba diving and restoring classic cars.  
I love...reading novels, music and the outdoors.  
I don’t like...vegetables and rude people.  
When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me... to study harder in high school in order to develop better skills for university.

Name...Emma Goddard  
THS Position...Literacy Tutor  
The high school I attended was... Dorrigo High School followed by Coffs Harbour Senior College.  
On the weekends I enjoy...performing in local theatre productions with the Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company, studying to complete my Education Degree with SCU and enjoying living on the Coffs Coast.  
I love...singing, being active, learning, performing and teaching.  
I don’t like...  
When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me...how fortunate we are to live in such a beautiful part of the world!

Name...Zac Williams  
THS Position...Literacy Tutor  
The high school I attended was... Toormina High School!  
On the weekends I enjoy...gym, beach, friendship.  
I love...helping people help themselves and seeing their achievements.  
I don’t like...bullying.  
When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me... to listen.....
Year 7 Parents
Meet the Teachers Afternoon
On the 4th of March, our staff extended an extra welcome to our Year 7 Parents - especially those joining our school community for the first time - by holding our ‘Meet the Teachers Afternoon Tea’. Thank you to those parents who were able to attend. If parents of Year 7 students have any questions about how their child is settling into high school - please do not hesitate to contact Sheridan Watkins (Year 7 Adviser).
Laura McRae - Head Teacher Welfare

REGIONAL SWIMMERS
Jessica Lee, Kate Bowles, Sienna Parkinson and Brianna Page swam at the regional carnival in the 14 Girls relay, congratulations on a great swim.

SPIRIT OF TOORMINA AWARDS
Congratulations for showing a fantastic attitude that embodies the Toormina High School philosophy of caring, sharing and participating...
Leon Paulger-Jerrett
Curt Edwards
Danica Bake
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY
Our Year 12 female prefects were invited to attend the International Women’s Day Breakfast at Pacific Bay Resort on Friday 6th March. Students heard from prominent local businesswomen, three local students and the key note speaker, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Macquarie University, Deidre Anderson. The breakfast enabled our prefects to join in the celebration of the achievements of women. A highlight was Kaitlin Reeves’ ‘Acknowledgment of Country’ and accompanying explanation which was extremely well received by the audience.

Laura McRae - Head Teacher Welfare

SENIOR STUDY SKILLS DAY
On Thursday 5th March Year 11 and Year 12 varied their normal routines at school to undertake a special day's program aimed at improving their success in the Higher School Certificate. During the day students developed skills which assisted them in planning and managing their studies. Each student was guided in the task of devising an individual study skills program that best suits their needs. They were also were encouraged to prepare a workable time management plan which allowed for relaxation and extra curricula activities. The students gained understanding in how the brain works and examined effective learning and preferred learning styles. Examination stress, health and fitness, study tips and tricks, as well as job applications and interview details were covered by an array of excellent presenters.

The school is very grateful to the visiting organisations; Nortec; the Coffs Coast Health Club, the University Roadshow, and, Novaskill who gave very informative information from their very accomplished representatives.

Local businesses provided very generous support of this program. The school would like to acknowledge these businesses and their valuable contributions toward making the Study Skills Day so successful. Toormina High School wishes to thank the Big Banana, Springloaded Trampoline Park, Dolphin Marine Magic and Coffs Coast Kegel 9 Pin Bowling. Recipients of Year 11 awards on the day were Jesse-Lee Culgan, Matthew Summerville, Gypsy Musumeci, Jesse Kirkman, Tyson Walker-Hoffman, Naithan Johnson, Merhawit Kidane and Ryan Portelli. Recipients of Year 12 awards on the day were Grace Koppman, Connor Cheers, Alisha Hayes, Leonard Britten, Darwin Arendain, Jason Lieschke, Brian Adam and Jessica Ryan.

Phil Ward - Year 12 Adviser
PROJECT BASED LEARNING IS COMING TO TOORMINA HIGH SCHOOL!

Would you like to see your children excited about what they are doing in class? Would you like to see them working with others to research, plan and create? Would you like the opportunity to see some of what you child is doing and learning at school?

Toormina High is about to begin a series of Project Based Learning (PBL) units which should bring all those things to pass. Starting in Term 3 this year all year 8 students will be involved in PBL units during their English and Science lessons. The idea is to introduce this style of learning in two more faculties each year until it becomes an option for teaching and learning at any year level, for any subject.

What is Project Based Learning? Put succinctly, it is a method of teaching which involves students working in small groups to plan, research and learn about a set unit of work. By basing the teaching and learning around a Driving Question, which has real-world relevance, students are motivated to develop teamwork skills in communication, co-operation, creativity, technology and critical thinking. These are the skills essential for success in the 21st century workforce.

All PBL units are carefully planned and educationally rigorous; unlike some of the ‘projects’ many parents will remember from their own school years. Teachers at Toormina have formed a PBL Team comprised of Julie Roberts, Jenny Bryant, Lisa Mullan, Matt Ryan, Andrew Willhoite, Sally Johnson, Matt Gray, Cherie O’Brien and Pam Wilson. They are already working together to develop the projects, tasks and scaffolds for this year to ensure they are both engaging and valuable experiences for all students. At the end of the Term 3 projects parents will be invited to Celebration Days for both English and science, in which students showcase the work they have done and the solutions they have proposed for their Driving Questions.

We’ll keep you updated over the coming months, however if you’re keen to know a bit more, have a look at the links below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LMCZvGesRz8 PBL explained
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PjAHbQWi78

Julie Roberts

NORTH COAST PRINCIPALS VISIT THS

THS hosted the Secondary Principals Conference recently. We impressed them with our hospitality, facilities and the wonderful morning tea provide by our canteen and Support Unit baristas led by Amanda Clifford. Former THS deputy principals, Simon McKinney and Erica Lyne took the opportunity to say hello to students and colleagues. Congratulations to all involved in the organisation.
Dear Parents/Carers,

The 2015 Year 10 Excursion will be a four day camp to Moreton Island Adventure Tours in Queensland. Students will be able to participate in a variety of activities including a day trip to Wet ‘n’ Wild, snorkelling, sand boarding, guided tours of Moreton Island and many more. The excursion aims to give enjoyable, experience-based learning for Year 10, provide them with a sense of personal growth and allow students to bond and form strong relationships with their fellow peers.

The excursion will be in Week 8 of Term 4 from Tuesday 24\textsuperscript{th} November – Friday 27\textsuperscript{th} November. Our anticipated agenda is as follows:

| Monday 23\textsuperscript{rd} November | Depart THS @ 6:00am. Students will spend the day at Wet ‘n’ Wild on the Gold Coast. Accommodation at Brisbane YHA. |
| Tuesday 24\textsuperscript{th} November | Depart Brisbane YHA @ 7:00am. Travel by bus and ferry to Moreton Island Adventure Tours. Various activities in the afternoon. |
| Wednesday 25\textsuperscript{th} November | Students will spend the day on Moreton Island. |
| Thursday 26\textsuperscript{th} November | Students will have a relaxed morning on Moreton Island before departing for a late evening return at THS. |

The approximate cost of this excursion is $570. This includes travel by bus and ferry, entrance to Wet ‘n’ Wild, food from Wednesday morning to Friday lunch time and the cost of the supervised activities.

All students attending this excursion will also need to undertake a swimming proficiency test in Term 3 to determine their capabilities in the water. Further information about this swim test will be provided later in the year.

A total of at least $170.00 must be paid to the Front Office by Friday 29\textsuperscript{th} May 2015 (Week 6, Term 2) to secure your child’s place. This amount will be non-refundable as student numbers will need to be confirmed to excursion providers.

The total amount of the excursion (approx. $570.00) must be finalised at the Front Office by Friday 18\textsuperscript{th} September (Week 10, Term 3).

These costs are approximate and will be confirmed later in the year. The purpose of this letter is to give families advanced notice and time to prepare if need be.

Please also note that student behaviour at school throughout the year may impact on eligibility to attend this excursion. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact Year 10 Adviser Lina Bluhm on (02) 6653 3077.

Regards,

Ms Lina Bluhm
Year 10 Adviser

Mrs Laura McRae
Head Teacher Welfare

Key Dates:
Friday 29\textsuperscript{th} May 2015: Non-refundable deposit of $170.00 due with Permission Note
Friday 18\textsuperscript{th} September 2015: Total amount of $570.00 must be finalised at the Front Office
Dear Parents,

As you can see from our newsletter, we are very busy supporting our students as learners across the curriculum. My congratulations go to all our students who have worked so hard this term to improve their knowledge, literacy and mathematics skills. We concentrate our school funding to assist individual students as learners. If you believe your child would benefit from some individual support in learning, please contact the relevant Student Adviser or Deputy Principal and they will set up a meeting to discuss the matter with you.

Congratulations go to all students representing our school through the SRC. Thank you to Mrs Cheers, Mrs Rayner and Mrs Gillingham for your supervision and development of these students’ leadership skills.

I wish you all well.

Please contact me if I can be of help in any way.

Best wishes,

E. Donnan

Principal’s Column

IMPORTANT DATES

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<th>Yr 12</th>
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SCHOOL ZONE PARKING OFFENCES

Increased penalties for School Zones. Current as at January 13th 2015

Means that in the area in the direction of the arrow, you must NOT STOP your vehicle at any point on the road or kerb, unless there is a medical or other emergency.

Means that you have no more than 2 minutes for drop-offs or pick-ups of passengers or goods and the driver must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.

Means that in the direction of the arrow or arrows you are not allowed to stop your vehicle unless you are driving a bus.

DOUBLE PARKING
You are NOT PERMITTED to stop or park your vehicle alongside another vehicle that is already parked parallel to the kerb.

- **STOP in a NO STOPPING zone**: $311 + 2 Demerit Points, or STOP on or near a Children’s or Pedestrian Crossing: $415 + 2 Demerit Points
- **STOP on path/strip in built up area**: $173 + 2 Demerit Points
  These penalties apply to offences in school zones during posted school hours.
- **STOP or Park in a Disabled Marked Area without a permit (all areas)**: $519