On Monday 18th May students participated in a Gumbaynggirr language class for the new Minister for Aboriginal Affairs. The Hon. Leslie Williams, visited our school to observe various activities and to talk with the students. Thank you to Penny Grace - LOTE Teacher, Aunty Judith and the students involved in a fantastic presentation which the minister thoroughly enjoyed.

NEW Toormina High School Skoolbag App for Smartphone, Ipad or Tablet

This FREE App will allow you to receive alerts, information and school newsletters from our school instantaneously.

We are pleased to be able to offer this App free of charge to all parents and students. You are able to modify the App via Push Categories to receive information relevant to your child’s particular year at school.

It is very easy to install, please follow the instructions found on the back of this newsletter or if you have any concerns please come into the school or make contact with us on 6653 3077 for further help.
THS Athletics Carnival 2015

After being washed out last week, we were glad to see the sun out on Wednesday for our Athletics Carnival. Our competitors should be very proud of the fantastic effort they put in.

Congratulations to Damien Dickson who broke the Boys 15 yrs 100m sprint record with a time of 11.97 seconds and to Bradley Clarke who broke a record in the Boys 16 yrs Triple Jump, with a jump of 11.43 metres.

Please keep your eyes out for the age champions and winning house in the next newsletter.

A huge thank you to all staff who did a great job running the carnival.
Athletics Carnival Continued
Update Children’s Health and Emergency Contact Details

A reminder to all parents and carers to please notify the school about your child’s health or any changes in circumstance.

We welcome information from parents about your child’s health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you first enrol your child. It is very important that you let us know if your child’s health care needs change or if a new health condition develops.

Information about allergies or medical conditions, such as asthma and diabetes, and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents or carers. Please provide this information in writing to the principal. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child’s health and wellbeing.

Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts on 6653 3077.

We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed to the relevant people in order to support your son or daughter’s health needs or as otherwise required by law.

Welcome to THS Mrs Young - Relieving Deputy Principal

We would like to welcome Mrs Helen Young to Toormina High School. We hope she enjoys her time with us and look forward to building a wonderful working relationship with her.

THS Position... Relieving Deputy Principal.
The high school I attended was... Mount Gambier High School.
On weekends I enjoy... watching AFL and shopping.
I love... my sons, my cats, AFL and socializing.
I don't like... rudeness and tardiness.
When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me... to be more confident and speak up if something seemed wrong.

Dorrigo Geography Field Trip

We went to the Dorrigo Rainforest Centre on Friday 8th May for a Geography field trip.
We all really enjoyed it because of the awesome waterfalls and the different types of trees. We learnt lots about the rainforest ecosystem and how humans interact with it. We went onto the skywalk and learnt about the basalt soil from the Ebor volcano and how it has affected the growth of the trees. After we had walked the trail, we had a barbecue lunch and then threw around a football, before going back to school on the bus. We really enjoyed our field trip to the Dorrigo Rainforest.
Ryan Gilchrist - Year 7 Student
Winners in Coffs Harbour Miss Show Girl Competition

A huge congratulations goes to both of our students who were each winners of their individual sections in this years Coffs Harbour Miss Show Girl Competition.
Kaitlyn Bland of Year 10 won the Teen Miss Show Girl Competition and Zara Saxby won the Junior Miss Show Girl Section of the competition.
What fantastic ambassadors you were for the show and for our school. Keep up the great work during the year and we hope to see you both back competing in 2016.
Pictured are Kaitlyn and Zara with their luxurious prize hampers.

Year 8 Mathematics Day at UNE Armidale

On Friday 15th May four of our Year 8 students attended a Mathematics day at UNE in Armidale.
The four boys, Luke Field, Johan Newman, Gerard Purton and Tanner Zeytinli had the opportunity to develop their mathematical talents and thinking skills in fun-filled activities. Students, in a team of four, competed and contributed greatly.
It was a fantastic learning experience for the boys and they performed exceptionally well.
They were involved in a wide range of problem-solving activities appropriate to their age, encompassing both non-routine and real-life problems. It was an opportunity to engage and socialise with other Year 8 students from a diverse range of schools, and meet new friends. The boys thoroughly enjoyed the day and found it an ideal way to participate in mathematical activities without the usual classroom pressures.
Kali Roraduri - Mathematics Teacher

Public Speaking Competition

On Thursday 30th April Natalie Hawkins represented Toormina High School in the North Coast Finals of the NSW Plain English Public Speaking Competition. She travelled to Nambucca High School and had two speeches to perform, a prepared speech and an impromptu speech. For Natalie's prepared speech, titled 'Body Image', she had to speak for 8 minutes. In this time, she wowed the judges and audience members with an entertaining and educational speech which put her in high contention for first place. Natalie then had to compete in the impromptu section of the competition and give a three minute speech. The topic given to the contestants was 'A Flip of the Coin'. She only had three minutes to prepare for the speech! Natalie spoke very well in this section but another girl pipped her at the post and took first place for the competition.

Congratulations Natalie for speaking with wisdom and confidence and representing our school with such excellence.
Sally Johnson - English/Drama Teacher
Students in Year 7 to 10 sat the State Selective High School Test to gain entry into the school. These students study Mathematics, English and Science with Aurora College and attend other classes in their home school.

“It has been an extremely challenging and rewarding experience so far. You have to be very organised and always have a back up plan for when the technology isn’t working. I have even taught a lesson on my mobile phone after we lost power at Toormina High School,” says Mrs Dawson.

The teachers use Adobe Connect software and a host of collaborative tools such as OneNote Class Notebook, Google Tools and Moodle to teach students via the internet.

Teachers and Students attend a week long residential school twice a year. The first one was held in Term 1 at Hurlstone Agricultural High School where they have boarding facilities. The second one is planned for Term four.

“The enthusiasm from students and staff is really motivating and encouraging. Some students and staff travelled for a full day by bus to reach Residential School.”

Residential School enables Science practicals and enrichment opportunities for students with excursions to Microsoft and universities, which are not available to them in their local areas.

On Tuesday 19th May some of our Year 10, Year 11 and Year 12 students joined 500 students from eleven surrounding high schools at the CHEC where they were educated on Managing Stress: The HSC and Beyond.

The students learnt about the signs and symptoms of stress and were given tips for a healthy headspace to assist them while studying and sitting their HSC. Key speakers talked on topics such as diet and exercise, adequate rest, time management and coping strategies.

Thank you very much Mrs Donnan and the Coffs Harbour Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing Network for organising this worthwhile event. Our Toormina High School students walked away from the day feeling refreshed and better equipped to cope with their demanding schedules.

Adrienne Gillingham - Acting Head Teacher Welfare
Principal’s Column

We’ve held a number of important events at Toormina High over the last two weeks. Most notably we played host to the new Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, the Hon. Leslie Williams, who visited our school to see a Gumbaynggirr language lesson in action. Congratulations to teacher Ms Penny Grace, Aunty Judith Peen and all of the students involved for a fantastic presentation. In her thanks the Minister recognised the value that was place on language and community at Toormina High School and was overflowing with praise of our students, staff and school. Thanks must also go to Toormina Primary School and their students who performed ‘Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes’ for the Minister in both Gumbaynggirr and English.

Another important event this fortnight was the Year 10 Careers Day which involved students attending a careers expo at the race-course before returning to school for a senior subjection selection information session and a parent information evening. Students were provided with information about the broad selection of subjects available at Toormina High School and possible career pathways. Subject selection lines are now open for Year 10 students. Any student or parent who feels they need additional information should contact the school on 6653 3077 and speak to Robyn West our Careers Advisor.

Our After-hours Homework Centre also officially opened this week. Hosted in the school library on Monday and Thursday afternoons from 3:30-5:00pm students can receive one-on-one support from teachers to assist them to complete homework, assignments or to understand classwork. To date, we have had a good response to this initiative but look forward to more students and their families using this support.

With all of these important activities occurring in the last fortnight I still haven’t had an opportunity to mention the NSW Blues visit, our athletics carnival, our planned visit from the USA student ambassadors, or our HSIE excursions. We are a busy school with some amazing staff and fantastic opportunities being made available for our students.

Joanne Bellette - Relieving Principal
2015 Year Group Excursions Reminder

Just a reminder that the following excursions are coming up. To secure your child's place please pay the following deposits BEFORE the due date:

Year 7 with Miss Watkins: Day trip to Coffs Coast Adventure Centre in Bonville
$30 deposit is due by Friday 18th September

Year 8 with Mrs Gillingham: 3 days to the Great Aussie Bush Camp to Tea Gardens
$50 deposit is due by Friday 26th June (Last day of Term 2)

Please note that Year 9 and 10 deposit dates have now been extended to the following dates:

Year 9 with Mr Anderson: Day trip to Sea World on the Gold Coast
$50 deposit is due by Friday 26th June (Last day of Term 2)

Year 10 with Mr Francis: 4 days to Moreton Island in Queensland
$170 deposit is due by Friday 26th June (Last day of Term 2)

Please contact your child's Year Adviser if you have any further questions regarding the excursions.

Cyber Safety Workshop - For Parents & Carers

Jo Brooker from Coffs Harbour Police will be presenting a workshop on 'Cyber Safety for Parents & Carers' on Thursday 6th August from 6:00-7:00pm in the Bonville Public School library.

The workshop will address online bullying, kids and social media and the law.

The presentation was very well received by Bonville parents last year so please go along and learn more about Cyber Safety for your children.

Please RSVP to Bonville Public School on 6653 4250 by Monday 3rd August if you wish to attend.

Uniform Shop
New Opening Times

Please note that the Uniform Shop hours have changed. From 25th May the shop will ONLY be open Monday from 8am to 4pm.

We now have the School Jumpers in stock and they are great for the cooler weather and are only $30 each.

I haven't heard when the other items we are waiting for will be in but I am meeting with Daylight Sportswear in the next few weeks. I will have more definite news for you then.

Michele Bake - Uniform Shop

WIN 1 OF 3 LAPTOPS!!!

When you pay your student voluntary contribution by 26th June you will go into the draw to win 1 of 3 Laptops!

Hurry and make your payment now so that you don’t miss the chance of winning one of these 3 great prizes!!!
Does your child need a helping hand with their homework, an assessment task or preparing for an exam?

Teaching staff are available to help your child in the school library every Monday and Thursday afternoon from 3:30 to 5pm, and the best part is that **IT IS FREE!**

*If you have any questions please contact Mrs Gaye Devoy on 6653 3077*
How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

**iPhone & iPad Users**

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search; using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "Install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps"; your school will then be visible, click "Free" then "Install".
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

**Android Users**

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au