The Induction Ceremony for the Student Executive Team for 2016 was held in the THS Library last week with family and friends.

CONGRATULATIONS to captains, Shaylee Poole, Egan Reynolds and vice captains Gypsy-Lee Musumeci and Jesse Kirkman, also, to prefects, Tunai Tarrant, Erykah Kitchener-Waters, Nathan Pollitt and Tyler Eather.
REWARDED
In recognition of the effort and application our students regularly demonstrate at Toormina High School we held a Rewards Excursion on Friday, August 28 to Dreamworld on the Gold Coast.

379 students qualified to receive an invitation to attend by receiving an academic, merit or encouragement award or were nominated as an outstanding school citizen. Congratulations to all these students. 150 places were filled quickly and a fantastic day was enjoyed by all!

Thank you to staff and parents for the early (5am!) start and late (10:30pm) finish! Also, thank you to the wonderful Toormina High School P&C who contributed to the travel costs.
PROJECT BASED LEARNING PRESENTATION DAY

Congratulations to Year 8 & the English and Science faculties! The Presentation Day saw excited students, proud parents and teachers and guest judges impressed with the variety of ways students demonstrated their learning.

Neil Armstrong said “This is one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind” as he set foot on the moon for the first time. This day marked Toormina’s first step along the road to introducing Project Based Learning throughout the school and has been a giant leap for both teachers and students.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our Science and English teachers, who have spent months planning and preparing projects allowing students to develop vital skills for the 21st century workplace. Critical thinking, creativity and teamwork have been developed through cooperation, collaboration and learning new skills while researching and exploring techniques to answer the driving questions. Scientific testing methods, animation, film making and learning to use a variety of computer programs have been some of the skills developed during PBL. Group work in the field and local community members visiting classes has enabled students to see the relevance of their learning and connection to real life concerns.

Project Based Learning has been a giant leap for students and staff and I would like to thank them for their enthusiasm and support.

Julie Roberts - Head Teaching, Teaching & Learning
The students from Toormina High School who will be representing our school at the State Athletics Carnival were interviewed by the Prime News team last week. Our school has the largest number of qualifiers in the region! The news clip is available to view on the THS Website. Congratulations to these talented athletes! Absent from the photo are Jack Ingram and Jada-Lee Brunton.

Basketball

Tuesday 18th August, Toormina High School’s Under 15’s boys and girls basketball teams went to Sportz Central and participated in the Mid North Coast Gala Day. The girls played Coffs High first up and then Orara High, losing their first game but winning the second game by 2 points! The boys played Grafton High first and Orara High second and unfortunately lost both games. Both teams displayed excellent sportsmanship and most importantly enjoyed being physically active.

Sheridan Watkins
Team Coach

Skoolbag is a FREE app for your smartphone, ipad or tablet which allows you to receive alerts and information instantly from our school.

We are encouraging everyone to please install Skoolbag. This is an easy, cost effective means of communication for THS. Simple instructions are on the THS website or contact us for help on 66533077.
Our staff questionnaire this newsletter introduces our WELFARE TEAM...

Name... **Brad Poidevin**
THS Position... Welfare Teacher/Geography Teacher
The high school I attended was... Revesby De La Salle & Benilde De La Salle, Bankstown.
On weekends I enjoy... surfing, mountain biking, orienteering, trail running and camping.
I love... adventure and life!
I don’t like... the word ‘can’t’
When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me... go the extra yard.

Name... **Beate Pasch**
THS Position... Senior Welfare Teacher
The high school I attended was... ages ago in Germany.
On weekends I enjoy... socialising, walking, swimming and Zumba.
I love... traveling and gardening.
I don’t like... snakes and spiders.
When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me.. that change is a great thing and that support is around the corner.

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**REMEMBER TO ALL STUDENTS!!!**

**THS HOMEWORK CENTRE IS OPEN**
EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY
3.30PM - 5PM  THS LIBRARY
This is a wonderful asset and a great opportunity for students to receive extra tuition!
For further information, phone Gaye Devoy, 66533077

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**IMPORTANT DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MON</th>
<th>7/9 - 14/9</th>
<th>Year 11</th>
<th>FINAL EXAMINATIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WED</td>
<td>9/9</td>
<td>All School</td>
<td>SOCIAL $5</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Theme</td>
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<tr>
<td>THURS</td>
<td>10/9</td>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>Support Unit</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10/9</td>
<td></td>
<td>COFFEE SHOP</td>
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<td>10am - 2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUES</td>
<td>15/9</td>
<td>Year 12</td>
<td>Graduation</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>ASSEMBLY</td>
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<td></td>
<td>FORMAL</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRI</td>
<td>18/9</td>
<td>All School</td>
<td>Last day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Term 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUES</td>
<td>6/10</td>
<td>All School</td>
<td>First Day</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The Year 8 Excursion to the GREAT AUSSIE BUSH CAMP is in term 4, Wednesday, December 2 to Friday, December 4. Please continue to make regular payments to front office.
A motivated group of year 9 and year 10 Aboriginal boys have been transforming parts of THS grounds and gardens as part of a 10-week ‘Connections to Country Horticultural Program’. At the completion of the program, approximately halfway into next term, the boys will receive a Certificate II in Skills for Work & Vocational Pathways with Horticulture.

This is an exciting new program for THS because it allows our Aboriginal students to be immersed in meaningful opportunities while staying in the familiar surrounds and convenience of the school. Every Thursday, the boys work towards acquiring a deeper understanding of their culture in the context of localised horticulture, and as part of the program Elders and Industry experts come to the school and share their knowledge and perspectives on the importance of connecting to country.

Mr Francis, who is coordinating the Gonski-funded program, says, ‘The boys don’t just gain meaningful and tangible work-related skills for work placement. The program allows the boys to also explore links to their culture and environment through guidance and support from quality tutors, industry experts and respected leaders in the community. The outcomes of the project aim to facilitate cultural immersion. Through quality support given by our weekly guests, our students are building pathways and connections to future opportunities’.

While Mr Francis says, ‘This program is another way that THS is responding to the needs of Aboriginal students in our community,’ he also agrees that he too has gained a deeper understanding and a greater appreciation for how land and culture connect, a lesson he plans to share in his classrooms.

Jayden Kitchener-Waters from year 9 says ‘the course has reinvigorated me. I have had the chance to relate to other Aboriginal boys and build strong relationships. The time with the boys has added to my character and added value to my identity. It has definitely given me another reason to come to school as I feel refreshed by this experience’.

‘In the first five weeks that this program has run,’ Mr Francis continues, ‘I have noticed the boys have developed a greater sense of self and self-esteem. They have also acquired the skills of working cooperatively with other members of a team. The small focus group that the program provides, allows the boys to learn how to gel with other individuals while they work towards enriching their own identity’.

‘By working closely with each other and with cultural and industry experts each week, I have found the program is helping the boys develop into mature young gentleman. The program has been a positive experience for all participants, for they are really engaged and are taking ownership of their work. I am very proud of their achievements as I am hearing reports from other teachers that they, too, have seen marked changes in their engagement and academic performance back in the classroom’.

Programs such as the ‘Connections to Country’ Horticultural program are only possible because Gonski provides schools with the necessary money, and therefore the facility, to tailor learning to meet the individual needs of our students.

Daniel Laing, ESL Teacher (Photo shows the group with TAFE teacher, Clint Burton).
Café Splash is an independently run business in Centro Toormina shopping centre, run by Ed Brazier. Ed has supported students from Toormina High School, with work experience opportunities and with numerous traineeship opportunities for the past 10 years. He has been providing young people, some who may require extra assistance, with realistic work opportunities to enhance their career pathway options.

Toormina High School currently has 2 students undertaking a School based Traineeship at Café Splash. The students work 1 day per week in the café and participate in the VET Hospitality course at school as part of their senior studies program. Students from the Support Unit enjoy a drink and a bite to eat at Café Splash each Friday and are always welcomed by Ed and his wonderful staff.

Chris Browne, Head Teacher Support
Robyn West, Careers Adviser

Toormina High School would like to acknowledge and thank Ed for his continued support.

Core Of Life
This year, all Year 9 students participated in the program “Core of Life”. Students were educated on issues relating to pregnancy and parenthood which has increased their awareness of support available in the wider community and improved students’ capacity to make smarter, healthier choices.

Laura McRae - Head Teacher Welfare
PRINCIPAL’S COLUMN

Our school community is made up of many different people, all of whom play a part in the running of schools and the provision of quality education for students. School Administrative and Support Staff (SASS) are an important part of this picture. Whether they work in the office, the library, on the school grounds or in a classroom setting, the SASS staff are important contributors to the success of the school and children’s education. August 31st to September 4th is SASS Recognition Week and I’d like to take this opportunity to recognise and thank our hard working SASS staff at Toormina High School for all of the terrific work they do.

As you read this newsletter you’ll note the fantastic opportunities students are accessing at Toormina High School, from Project Based Learning to rewards excursions, representative sports and horticultural programs. The fact that our students are given these opportunities is a reflection of our fantastic staff and community who constantly impress me with their goodwill and determination to see the best for our students. So thank you to all of the staff, parents and P&C who are integral to our school and student success.

Joanne Bellette
Relieving Principal

TERM 4 SPORT SELECTIONS

Sport selections for term 4 will take place on Wednesday the 16th of September (week 10, term 3). The table below is an outline of the sports being offered and each sport’s requirements and costs. Please discuss your selections with your parents/ guardians before committing to a sport. Remember you may not get your first choice so have a backup sport ready in case you miss out on your first preference this time. Please note all year 10 students will take part in a school based sport program during term 4 and will not select a sport unless they make specific alternate arrangements with the sports coordinator.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPORT</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>COST PER WEEK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>Walk to/from Toormina Oval- Soccer</td>
<td>FREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field games</td>
<td>Walk to/from Toormina Oval- Touch, Frisbee, Vortex, T-ball</td>
<td>FREE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theatre Sports</td>
<td>At school- Team based competitive drama games, e.g., miming, improvisation.</td>
<td>FREE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chess/Board games</td>
<td>At school- A variety of board games and card games</td>
<td>FREE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self Defence</td>
<td>At school- Self-defence techniques based on MMA taught by qualified MMA instructors</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gym Activities</td>
<td>Walk to/from Coffs Coast Health Club- The use of cardio equipment and weights</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superstar sports</td>
<td>Walk to/from Coffs Health Club (spring loaded), Gymnastics and trampoline activities</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking/Beach Games</td>
<td>Bus to/from Jetty/ sawtell beach. Beach walking and various beach sports and activities. No swimming allowed</td>
<td>$4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Skating</td>
<td>Bus to/from The Big Banana- Skates hired at venue each week. Beginners welcome- Training frames available (no extra charge). Students may wear long pants for protection.</td>
<td>$4 for Bus $6 for Activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Games</td>
<td>Bus to/from Indoor Cricket Centre – Students participate in a range of indoor games.</td>
<td>$4 for Bus $4 for activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kegal</td>
<td>Bus to/from Kegal (9 pin bowling) – Rotate through match games with your team, against other teams from our school group.</td>
<td>$4 for Bus $4.50 for activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn to Surf</td>
<td>Bus to/from Beach- Students will be taught how to surf or Stand Up Paddleboard by instructors. Board and rash vests provided. Initial/O ne-off cost of $80 required by the end of week 1 or student will be withdrawn.</td>
<td>$4 for Bus $80 (to front office)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surfing</td>
<td>Bus to/(Various) – Must provide own Surfboard/Body Board, Swimmers and Rash Shirt. Flippers are optional. For safety reasons, students MUST have completed and passed the THS Surf Survival Course or OISSA prior to entry into Surfing Group.</td>
<td>$4 for Bus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis</td>
<td>Bus to/from Sawtell Tennis Club – Students participate in group Coaching and Activities under instruction from qualified ATA Coaches. Own Tennis Racquet required.</td>
<td>$4 for Bus $5 for activity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Support Unit Coffee Shop continues to flourish! All are welcome at our regular cafes, dates are advertised in our newsletter. Come and enjoy delicious cakes and support this program which enables students to gain ‘real life’ work experience with increasing efficiency in the hospitality area. Photo above shows our waiters with Peer Support students who also gain experience in our Coffee Shops.

Chris Browne, Head Teacher Support

NEW STAFF QUESTIONAIRE
Name...Mr Darren Thompson and Miss Agnes King
THS Position...Staff Guinea Pigs.
Mr Thompson likes lots of attention and pats. He loves short walks on the grass and sitting in the sun. Mr Darren Thompson is a strict vegetarian who enjoys the company of his new friend Agnes King. Agnes, also a vegetarian is a shy lady who enjoys an indoors lifestyle. The couple do not like bullies or bossy people, meat pies, sausage rolls and loud noises.

On the weekends Mr Thompson has enjoyed vacations to his holiday house and practicing his popcorn moves. He enjoys Sunday lunch on the lawn with friends and looking forward to getting to know Ms King a little better.

Pictured is Joel Watson with Mr Darren Thompson, Miss Agnes King preferred to stay indoors during the photo shoot.

Big thanks to Toormina Pet Shop for the donation of Ms King. Our Support Unit welcomes our new friends who are assisting students with learning about animal care.
COFFS COLTS CRICKET CLUB
Senior & Junior REGISTRATION DAYS
Saturday, 5 September
Saturday, 12 September
10am - 12 noon
LEISURE PARK, STADIUM DRIVE

2015/16 Age Groups
JUNIOR U/10, U/12, U/14, U/16
SENIOR Grades 1, 2, 3, 4

BBQ on the day - See you there!
For more information, phone Matt 0423 613 820
Healthy School Environment Forum
For Mid North Coast P&C / P&F members, Teaching Staff and Canteen Managers

Live Life Well @ School

Discover: How to achieve a healthy & profitable canteen, fresh fundraising ideas, school success stories and sustainability initiatives to support a healthy school environment.

Presented by the Mid North Coast Local Health District Health Promotion Team to support schools in achieving a whole school approach to good health.

Guest Presenters:

Jo Gardner, CEO Healthy Kids Association (HKA)
An insight into running healthy and profitable school canteens
Jo's background is in small business management having been manager of a Business Enterprise Centre. As current CEO of HKA, she is responsible for operating as the leasee of school canteens.

Sustainability Officer, Coffs Harbour City Council
Find out how schools can access information, expertise, ideas and resources to make it easier for the local community to support sustainability initiatives in your school.

Come along and hear about some great fund raising ideas, plus tips and examples from local schools on their successful programs which support children's health and wellbeing at school.

Forum Details:

Date: Wednesday 9th September 2015
Venue: Sawtell Public School,
32 -36 Eleventh Avenue, Sawtell
Time: 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Please RSVP: by Tuesday 1st September by registering online at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/healthyschoolenvironmentVFP5SWY

Enquiries: Nicki Kerr - Nicola.kerr@ncahs.health.nsw.gov.au
02 56228503

Supporting Schools to Achieve a Healthy School Environment

All participants will receive a FREE resource pack
A healthy BBQ will also be available on the evening.
WHOOPING COUGH WARNING

Once again there have been several cases of Whooping Cough (Pertussis) reported in our area. Whooping Cough can be a life threatening infection in babies and young children. Please be aware that even those who have been vaccinated are at risk of developing Whooping Cough as immunity fades over time.

For information go to the NSW Health website www.health.nsw.gov.au or phone the Public Health Unit 1300 066 055

CAREERS

Southern Cross University Early entry closes 9/9
University of New England Early entry closes 11/9
Southern Cross University Senior Schools Day for Year 11 students, Tuesday October 20.
Queensland University Overnight Excursion December 3.

For further Information see Mrs West in Careers Office