Year 12, 2012 Prefects and the Busy Bee Café have purchased a Mascot Costume which was presented to the school on Presentation Night last December.

Mr Barry was kind enough to dance it out for all to see.

It is hoped that the mascot will be used at sporting and PBL events to boost school spirit.

This was an idea that the year group had been working on for a number of years.

Thank you to all the parents and teachers who helped the group achieve their dream.

2012 Year 12 Adviser Mrs Barnett and Prefects with the colourful and exciting school mascot.
Welcome to 2013.

Next P & C Meeting - The third Tuesday of each month. Tuesday 19th February at 6.30 pm in the school Library for approximately an hour. We invite all new and returning families to these friendly and informative meetings. Have a cuppa whilst we meet. AGM is March meeting.

Canteen – Thanks to Cheree and her small band of volunteers for the great service. The canteen is always willing to hear from anyone who has a spare day or two a month to help out. THANKYOU TO THE PREFECTS WHO ARE AGAIN HELPING INSIDE THE CANTEEN ON A ROSTERED BASIS. The development of the learning space means our canteen is serving from the double green doors opposite the TAS department.

Country Music Camping - Thanks to Marg McKenzie - Davis for their organisation again this year. Thanks to the prefects and parents and community members who turned up to help with the work each afternoon, some of you on two, three, four and more occasions. Special thank you to the staff that turned up to help – Wayne Woods, Luke Barry and Richard Sowden. Thanks to Tim Macartney, our school General Assistant, for helping out too. Thanks to all the helpers. The funds raised go to help educational opportunities for kids at THS, some of the funds raised last year went towards the establishment of the stage four scholarships commencing this year. There will be a report at the P & C meeting.

School Uniform.
The P & C supports the wearing of correct school uniform as set out in the school handbook and on the school website. Because of WHS this includes the wearing of fully covered black leather school shoes. We ask parents to support the school by ensuring their children are in a safe learning environment with correct safety equipment and clothes for all classes. The P & C will be organising another successful fit and measure afternoon for winter uniforms in March.

P & C Email Newsletter Group – trying to be ‘greener’
If you would like to receive the school newsletter via email please email thsp_and_c@yahoo.com.au or thspandc@gmail.com

Like us on Facebook Tamworth High P & C
**Would $500 assist you with education costs?**

You could receive up to $500 to help pay for educational costs including:

- school uniforms
- text books
- excursions
- laptops
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire
- TAFE, traineeship and apprenticeship costs!

The Benevolent Society delivers Saver Plus in your local area and is looking for new participants.

To be eligible you must:

- have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- are at least 18 years old
- have some regular income from work (you or your partner), and
- have a child at school, or study yourself.

To find out more contact Anne Yates,
Saver Plus Worker at The Benevolent Society
6762 1344 / 0431 651 571 or
anne.yates@benevolent.org.au

Saver Plus is a matched savings and financial education program, developed by Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ and delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs with ANZ providing matched savings for participants.

---

**Uniform Shop**

Open Thursday lunch and by appointment when required.
Contact the school office. New and pre loved school uniform items available.

School Ties are now available at the canteen for just $18.
Socks for hockey and football also available at the canteen for just $10.
If you are able to help out here we would love to hear from you.

Has your son/daughter outgrown their uniform?
If you would like to donation uniforms please leave them at the Front Office.

---

**‘The Buzz’ Newsletter**

“The Buzz” is issued to students every second Friday to take home and it is also uploaded onto the school website (address on the front cover). You can also have your email added to the P&C database to receive a copy electronically.

It conveys information about school events and students’ successful achievements in both the school and the wider community.
The P & C would like to thank the following people for their time and efforts in making this year’s Country Music campers stay at our School an enjoyable one. The campers were very complimentary of all our volunteer’s hard work and how friendly they all were. The money raised from campers goes back into the school for learning resources for teachers to be able to deliver the best schooling possible for our children.

To Mr Barry thank you for having a wonderful co-operative group of young students who could not do enough to help. To Mr Woods who was in attendance most days with a friend from out of town who would call in after a day out enjoying the festival. Just Big Thanks to everyone that assisted as without your help our major fund raiser for the year would not have been such a success. I hope we can get more volunteers in 2014 as most campers will be returning.

Margaret Davis (Organiser)

Students of THS

Nickone Sayabath
Cassandra Copeland
Alison Sheedy
Alyse Peters-McMillan
Hayden Greer
Laura Robinson

Jorja-rose Choice
Emily Smith
Josh Lewis
Madeleine Park
Jordyn Rolfe
Katie Robinson

Louise Brown
James Hassen
Josh Larkham
Kyle Abrahams
Rebecca Hunt
Andrew Ventura

Jasen Scott
Amy Davidson
Josh Bradburn
Kyle Goward
Chris Coulton
Bianca Ham

Volunteers of THS

Leanne Courtney
Leanne McMillan
Jo Sheedy
Luke Barry
Jack Robinson

Karen Psarakis
Deb Hall
Mara Dedini
Wayne Owen
Wayne Woods

Helen Owen
Lisa Kelly
Steve Mathews
Annette Seagrave
Lea Everett
Richard Sowden

WANTED

Fashion and gossip magazines that have not had pages ripped out or articles cut out. Examples of magazines are New Idea, Who, Women’s Day, Vogue, Instyle, Women’s Weekly just to name a few.

Please bring magazines to Miss Gough in the Itinerant Staffroom which is located on the top floor, in G Block.

ART CLASSES

My Giddy Art is an art studio opening up in March which is offering small group art classes for both adults and children. The year is kicking off with a 6 week ceramic beginner’s course for juniors and a 9 week printmaking and collage workshop for adults.

If you are interested or want more details, please contact Cathy on 67617308 or email for a brochure at mygiddyaart@hotmail.com
**Does your Daughter or Granddaughter like to DANCE?**

Do you have a daughter or granddaughter who loves to DANCE? Tamworth BJP Physie Club offers dance classes for girls aged 3 to 103. Dance choreography is age appropriate and combines elements from Jazz, Ballet, Pilates, Hip Hop and strength routines set to modern music. We promote fitness and self confidence in a fun and friendly atmosphere. Come and give us a try! Your first lesson is FREE!! Classes are held at St Patrick’s Hall, Denison Street Tamworth. View our website [www.tamworthphysie.com](http://www.tamworthphysie.com), visit our facebook page (Tamworth Bjp Physie) or contact Jenny on 6765 6446 for more information.

**DO YOU HAVE AN OPINION?**  **DO YOU LIKE TO ARGUE? DO YOU WANT TO BE HEARD?**

If you answered yes to any of these questions, consider joining a Debating Team at Tamworth High School.

Last year, the Year 11 Debating Team were New England Regional Finalists. This year we are seeking more people to join our ranks across all years.

If you can argue, enjoy working as a team and want your opinions to be heard, please come see Miss Deaves in the English staffroom to express your interest.

**TAMWORTH FOOTBALL CLUB**

Online registration has started and we are also conducting Registration Days for new and existing players of any age group. If you would like to play football in the coming season our registration dates are as follows:

- Thurs. 21st Feb. & Thurs. 28th Feb. - 4:30 to 6:30pm at Gipps St fields

**Fees for 2013 will be:**

- Players aged 5 - 7 yrs $105.00
- Players aged 8 - 11 yrs $115.00
- Players aged 12 - 18 yrs $125.00
- Seniors 18 yrs + $275.00

Player gear (shorts and socks) will be available to purchase on the Registration Days. If you have any enquiries please feel free to contact Wayne May on 6762 1213.

Hope to see you in 2013.

**KOOTINGAL AND DISTRICT SOCCER CLUB**

Sign up day: Sat. 16th Feb. 1 to 4pm at Kootingal Bowling Club (BBQ Area)

****Huge discount on Registration Fees**

The club is currently looking for Year 11 & 12 players for the 2013 season.

With training in town and discounted fees now is the time to join Tamworth’s fastest growing soccer club. For further information phone - Noel 0412 619345

**TERM DATES 2013**

**TERM 1  (Eleven week Term)**

Begins Tuesday 29th January for all staff (Staff Development Day).

Year 7 and students wishing to enrol, with the assistance of prefects, start Wednesday 30th January.

All students attend Thursday 31st January.

Term ends Friday 12th April.

**TERM 2  (Nine week Term)**

Begins Monday 29th & Tuesday 30th April for all staff (Staff Development Days).

All students attend Wednesday 1st May.

Term ends Friday 28th June.

**TERM 3  (Ten week Term)**

Begins Monday 15th July for all staff (Staff Development Day).

All students attend Tuesday 16th April.

Term ends Friday 20th September.

**TERM 4  (Eleven week Term)**

Begins Tuesday 8th October for staff and students.

Term ends for all students Tuesday 18th December.

Staff Development days Thursday & Friday 19th & 20th December.

**FROM OUR PREFECTS**

The Prefects would like to welcome everyone to school for 2013. We are busy organising exciting events for the year, starting with

Keep an eye out for posters and notices about what you can purchase for that special someone!
If you are organising a family holiday during school terms or you know your child is having an operation or ongoing sickness, an exemption from schooling may be applied for, which also covers siblings, this means that the time away from school does not count towards your child’s absences.

An Exemption from Attendance at School form is available from the school, an application may only be approved beforehand and cannot be backdated.

On occasions your child may need to leave school early, eg; for an appointment. Please provide your child with a signed, dated note stating the reason and time required for the early leave. This note needs to be given to the staff in SAO PRIOR to roll call. An early leave pass will be processed and available for your child to collect in the first recess break.

This ensures their name is listed on the absentee sheet for the day with the time of departure, and that they are waiting to be picked up at the appointed time.

It is imperative that the school be contacted either by note or a telephone call (phone 6765 7888 or 6762 2432) if you change your address, telephone number or any emergency contact details at any time during your child’s stay at Tamworth High School.

This will alleviate any problems when we need to contact you especially if your child is sick or there is an emergency.
STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Maximum attendance at school supports the achievement of your students in becoming:
- Participating community members
- Self-sufficient individuals
- Ready for life and work
- Effective communicators
- Lifelong learners, and
- Environmentally and culturally aware

Therefore, parents, carers and students have certain responsibilities, as does Tamworth High School, in ensuring that our children and young people regularly attend school.

Parents and Carers are required to –
- Send students to school on every day that instruction is provided
- Promote a positive attitude towards attending school
- Provide written or verbal explanations for each absence WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS
- Co-operate with the Tamworth High School Attendance Policy
- Take measures to resolve attendance issues involving student/s

Students are required to –
- Attend school on each day that instruction is provided
- Attend all lessons on time
- Remain in class at all times, unless given permission to leave
- Bring notes from parents/carers to explain absences, WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS and hand in to roll teachers
- Co-operate with the Tamworth High School Attendance Policy

What to do if my child/ward is absent from school:
- If the date/s of absences are known beforehand, call, fax, email or send a note with student to the school BEFORE the date, giving date/s of absences and reasons for absences
- If the absence is unexpected, call, fax, email, or send a note with student to the school WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS of the absence.
- **Please note** that any information received after seven days CANNOT be accepted because the reason for the absence cannot then be legally changed.
- Letters are sent home in the mail for whole day absences. These should be signed by the parent/carer, a reason given, and returned to the school WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS
- Students who are late to school MUST go to SAO to swipe in, this generates a late to class slip and a note for parents. This note should be taken home, signed by the parent/carer, a reason given, and returned to the school WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS
**Bell Times 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>DAY 1</th>
<th>DAY 2</th>
<th>DAY 3</th>
<th>DAY 4</th>
<th>DAY 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roll Call</td>
<td>9:00 - 9:10</td>
<td>9:00 - 9:10</td>
<td>9:00 - 9:10</td>
<td>9:00 - 9:10</td>
<td>9:00 - 9:20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assembly</td>
<td>9:10 - 9:20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch 1</td>
<td>1:35 - 1:50</td>
<td>1:25 - 1:40</td>
<td>1:25 - 1:40</td>
<td>1:25 - 1:40</td>
<td>1:35 - 1:50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch 2</td>
<td>1:50 - 2:05</td>
<td>1:40 - 1:55</td>
<td>1:40 - 1:55</td>
<td>1:40 - 1:55</td>
<td>1:50 - 2:05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Stage 4</td>
<td>Stage 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings</td>
<td>1:55 - 2:05</td>
<td>1:55 - 2:05</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>Stage 5</td>
<td>Stage 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:55 - 3:20</td>
<td>1:55 - 3:20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff/ Faculty Meetings</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3:10 - 4:00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Clinic**

Students should let their class teacher know if they are unwell and they will be given a note to take to the Front Office, where parents/carers will be contacted to pick them up.

If a student is unwell at home, please do not send them to school.

**Students should not phone parents to pick them up (please refer to the Mobile Phone Policy towards the back of this handbook).**

If any new medical conditions are diagnosed eg asthma, epilepsy, heart condition, diabetes etc, the school needs to have written notification from the treating doctor as well as a health plan for the school to follow when needed.

**Mobile Phones at School – Our Policy**

Tamworth High School does not adopt a blanket ban to mobile phones at school. We feel that this approach is neither age appropriate nor does it teach students to use mobile phones in an appropriate manner.

However, there is an Acceptable Use of Mobile Phone and Personal Electronic Device Policy. This policy outlines what is and what is not permitted by students with mobile phones at school.

Here are some guidelines listed in the policy:

- Mobile phones are to be switched off and kept out of sight during classes inc. sport, outdoor practical classes (e.g. PE and Agriculture) and band practice. Mobile phones that cannot be turned off in the usual sense must be switched to flight mode.
- Parents are reminded that in cases of emergency, the school front office remains a vital and appropriate point of contact and can ensure your child is reached quickly and assisted in any appropriate way.
- In the rare and exceptional circumstances where the arrangements given above will not meet requirements an exception may be permitted if the parent/guardian specifically requests it. Such requests should be directed to the Deputy Principal who will write a note allowing the student to leave class to make the phone call.
- Students are permitted to use mobile phones before school, at recess and lunch breaks and after school in an appropriate manner.
- Mobile phones should not be used in any manner or place that is disruptive to the normal routine of the school e.g. on assembly.
- Students should protect their phone numbers by only giving them to friends and keeping a note of who they have given them to. This can help protect the student’s number from falling into the wrong hands and guard against the receipt of insulting, threatening or unpleasant voice, text, picture and hands and video messages via the usual phone networks, the internet or blue tooth and infra red connectivity.
Anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis is a severe and sudden allergic reaction. The most common forms of anaphylaxis are bee stings or ant bites as well as eating peanuts, tree nuts, fish and shellfish.

THS requires all students who have a diagnosed severe allergic reaction to have an individual health care plan. This plan is formed in consultation with parents and the family doctor. Students with a diagnosis of anaphylaxis should carry an Epipen with them at all times. An extra Epipen should be provided to the school. It will be kept at SAO. A second autoinjector device, the Anapen is also available. Like the EpiPen, it contains a single dose of adrenaline and is designed as a first aid device for use by people without formal medical or nursing training.

There are also new Emergency Response Plans for the treatment of Anaphylaxis. These new plans are:

- Action Plan for insect allergies - yellow;
- Action Plan for other allergies (e.g. nuts) – red;
- General Action Plan for severe allergies - orange.

For further information about anaphylaxis, please speak with Wayne Woods at the school.

Health Care Plans

Our student’s medical conditions and circumstances are constantly changing. THS wants to be prepared to meet these changes. To do this we need to update the medical information that we hold on our students.

If there has been any change in medical conditions that may affect a student’s learning, that may be life-threatening, or may result in a student requiring medical treatment whilst at school, please let us know via a note or phone call to the school.

Medical notes sent with a student should be passed on to SAO or given to Mr Woods in the Deputy Principal’s office.

Medication

If students need to take prescribed medication during school hours, parents are required to complete Medication Forms, available from the Front Office, this form is required for each new medication, including a change to generic brands.

The prescribed medication is to be brought to the Front Office in the original container with the medical details and name on the label.

Please only bring enough medication to last for either the duration of the illness or each week.

Your child is responsible to come down to the front office at the required time, they are also required to sign a record card each time medication is taken.

Student Administration Office (SAO)

Office hours are from 8:30am to 3:30pm on school days.

Please telephone 6762 2432 during these hours for student absences and leave passes.

SAO provides a wide range of services to students from its B Block location, including:

- Enrolment information (eg change of telephone numbers, address)
- To swipe in when arriving late to school
- To obtain a partial absence to leave school early
Tamworth High School
The school is checking that correct uniform and shoes are being worn by the students daily, occasionally holding random assemblies. Please ensure your child has the correct uniform and footwear daily, this not only looks nice but it is for the safety of your child whilst at the school.

Wearing Appropriate Footwear at School
The Department has identified particular areas of the school where enclosed leather footwear (or other material confirmed by the manufacturer to be suitable and in accordance with Australian/NZ Standard 2210: Safety Protective and Occupational Footwear) is required these are:

- Industrial Arts and trades workshop areas
- Science laboratories
- Canteen or Food Technology (Kitchen) areas.

These areas include classrooms with areas used for Food Technology (e.g. C3, B8, HMP). Visual Arts classrooms are also practical classrooms because of the lino floor covering, practical activities (including use of knives and lino cutters) and use of chemicals (e.g. paints). The agriculture plot is another practical area where fully enclosed leather shoes are required. Sandals, open footwear or high heeled shoes are not permitted in these areas. If students present for a class or activity with inappropriate footwear the Department of Education and Communities has stated that the students should not participate in practical activities and must be offered alternative educational activities.

School Uniform
The Tamworth High School Parents and Citizens Association together with the School Executive have agreed to accept a modification to the way in which students can wear the school uniform. Students are now permitted to wear their sports uniform on any day that they have Sport or a Physical Education class. However, students must bring fully enclosed leather shoes to school to change into if they have Science, Agriculture or Technology classes (Food Technology, Metal Technology, Wood Technology, Electronics etc.)

Why School Uniforms?
This question is often asked by students and sometimes by parents and community members.

Tamworth High School has been a uniform school for over 90 years; a decision regularly confirmed by its representative parent group, the Parents and Citizens (P&C) Association.

There are many good reasons for having and enforcing a school uniform policy. Here are some of those reasons, under our PBL headings of Safe Respectful Learners.

SAFE:
- students in uniform can be quickly and clearly identified, if necessary, as members of the school community,
- to comply with Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) legislation, students engaged in ALL practical classes (such as Science, Agriculture, Technology etc) must have their feet covered with leather.

RESPECTFUL:
- students correctly wearing the full school uniform, demonstrate pride in themselves as a human beings and respect for their school community,
- a common uniform demonstrates respect for equity; there is no competition where students feel the need to have the latest, expensive brands – a fair go for all, less arguments at home.

LEARNERS:
- many members of the workforce are required to wear a uniform; it is a valuable life skill to learn a uniform routine for each day,
- all learners need to experience belonging and effectively interact with their teachers; a uniform increases a student’s sense of belonging and increases positive interactions with their teachers.

For better or for worse, community perceptions of a school are directly linked to the quality of presentation of students in their school uniform.

When Tamworth High School students leave school and look for jobs in the local community, they want to approach business people who know of Tamworth High’s great reputation; a reputation that is strongly linked to the students’ school uniform.

As parents, it is our responsibility to ensure that our children have, and wear, the correct school uniform each day to ensure our children are Safe Respectful Learners.