What’s Buzzing
Term 1 Week 7
Date Issued 13/3/2015

March
17th  P&C Meeting - AGM - 6:30pm - Cafeteria
27th  Vaccinations Yr 7 - 9:30 am - Library
30th - 31st  Yrs 11 & 12 - Crossroads
31st  Parent/Teacher Night - 4:00pm - Cafeteria

April
2nd  Last day of Term 1
3rd  Good Friday
18th  Northern Excursion begins
20th  Staff Return - SDD Term 2
21st  All students return for Term 2
      P&C Meeting - 6:30pm - Cafeteria

May
3rd  Northern Excursion returns
7th  Cross Country - 1:00 All School Cross Country
12th  NAPLAN - Language & Writing
13th  NAPLAN - Reading
14th  NAPLAN - Numeracy
15th  NAPLAN - Catch up
19th  P&C Meeting - 6:30pm - Cafeteria

Tamworth High School
Date Issued 13/3/2015
An Inclusive Centre of Innovation, Creativity and Excellence

Winning Marlin’s and coach Mr Vereyken
Principal’s Report

Recently, Tamworth High School held the Gifted & Talented Information Evening in the Cafeteria. This was a very well attended event at which parents were informed of the great opportunities that are available to students participating in the very successful Gifted and Talented Program at THS. In addition to this event, our Year 12 Prefects conducted the first disco for 2015 in the Hall – a very busy evening for all concerned.

During Week 6, Tamworth High School hosted two special guest speakers to make presentations to various audiences. Former Tamworth based student and ex United Nations Youth Ambassador Benson Saulo shared the breadth of his experience by speaking to our students last Wednesday, and working with the students involved in the 2015 White Ribbon program launch on Thursday & Friday.

Consistent with Tamworth High School’s quest to develop greater understanding about the complexities of the younger generations that we work with every day, Social Researcher Michael McQueen was invited to speak with THS staff and teachers from surrounding districts last Wednesday evening. Michael’s presentation was highly motivating and informative, providing a significant insight into the wide range of factors that influence our younger generations and how we, as teachers, can adapt our teaching to suit the various situations that arise in modern educational settings.

I had great pleasure attending the annual Captains & Principals Dinner at Farrer MAHS recently with our Captains Brooke Fishenden and Jack Pickering. This was a great opportunity for our student leaders to mix and compare notes with their peers from our local high schools and listen to the wise words of Adam Marshall, MP for Northern Tablelands who was the after dinner speaker.

Finally, a reminder for the diary – the first Parent/Teacher Evening for 2015 is scheduled for Tuesday March 31st commencing at 4pm in the Cafeteria (last week of term) . This is an important opportunity for all parents to discuss their child’s education with staff. I encourage all parents to ask their child for the information sheet that is included in this mail out in the very near future and ensure that appointments with all relevant teachers are made – if parents require any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the school for assistance.

Daniel Wilson
Principal

Changes to the Secondary Schools Tax File Number Program in 2015

A tax file number is a unique nine-digit number issued to individuals and organisations to help administer tax and other Australian Government systems.

The Australian Tax Office has changed the process for students applying for a Tax File Number (TFN). Schools are no longer able to process TFN application forms!

The new process involves students completing an online application form and then visiting an Australia Post Office outlet to have their identity verified.

To apply for a TFN students need to visit:

https://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Ind/Apply-for-a-TFN-on-the-web/

Applying online is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a TFN. More information on applying online can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for ‘QC27248’

Students who are unable to visit a participating Australia Post office will need to complete the application form Tax file number - application or enquiry for individuals form (NAT 1432). More information about lodging this form can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for ‘QC22604’.

After they have completed this form students will need to print their application summary and take this together with proof of identity documents to an Australia Post outlet. This must be done within 30 days of completing the online form.

Information on the type of Proof of Identity documents that can be used can be found at:


Homework Centre

The Year 11 boys involved in White Ribbon Project will be hosting a homework centre on Mondays in the Canteen from 3.30 to 4.45 pm. This will be for Year 9 to 12 for Term 1. Students will sign in at the Canteen and are expected to stay until 4.45pm. There will be afternoon tea provided.
Parent Teacher Interviews

Tamworth High School is conducting Parent Teacher Interviews on Tuesday 31 March 2015 from 4.00pm. These Interviews will be held in the Cafeteria, enter via Jean Street.

Parent Teacher Night is an opportunity for you to discuss the learning of your student with their teachers.

All students benefit from strong communication between school and home. In these interviews you will be able to focus on your student’s schooling this year, address any particular issues that may be of concern and their future development at Tamworth High School.

Students will need to make bookings with their teachers. Students can use the booking sheet to arrange interviews or collect an Interview Booking Sheet at Roll Call or from the Student Administration Office (SAO).

Tamworth High School
P & C Association Inc.
secretarythspandc@gmail.com

Next meeting will be the AGM which will be held on 17 March at 6:30pm in the school Cafeteria. If you would like to nominate for any of the following positions please submit your supported nominations to Email: secretarythspandc@gmail.com:-

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary, Assistant Treasurer, Canteen Treasurer, Assistant Canteen Treasurer.

These nominations are to be received no later than Friday 13 March 2015. You must be a financial member of the P&C to nominate for any of these positions.

Any questions about the AGM please contact Cherie (Secretary) on 0409 531 616

Canteen helpers are still required. Anyone able to assist, even for an hour, please phone Judy Watson on 67659602.

Marlins Finish the Season on a High!

The 2014/15 water polo season is moving into the finals in the next few weeks. Sadly the greatest water polo team in the world won't be making an appearance at this year’s finals series. The Marlins have had an indifferent season, with some close wins followed by some not-so-close losses.

Being my first year of coaching this highly accomplished team I was unsure as to what I was getting myself into. Looking at water polo it’s hard to work out the rules. I finally figured out that basically you have to get the ball into the goal and try to drown as many people along the way. It’s the most bizarre game I have ever seen let alone tried to ‘coach’.

The girls entered the final game against Carinya with high hopes. Their confidence was building and as soon as they hit the water they played like girls possessed. They attacked the ball like it was a closing down shoe sale and managed to strangle the ball away from the opposition at every chance they could get. A nicely worked goal with passing shared throughout the team enabled Lucy Davis to slot it home. Megan Su had another superb game in goal stopping a number of shots. The defence was solid throughout the game with Brittany King and Samantha Wilson holding their own and supplying plenty of passes to the girls up front.

Out wide, Bree Poetschka and Brooke Fishenden were working well up and down the pool, while Lucy was having one of her best games as a Marlin ending up with 3 goals to her name. The final score being 3-2 a great win to end the season. A big thank you must go to Katie Robinson who made star cameos in goals and also helped train the girls. Abbey Lewis for continually being ruled out of competitive sport with injuries must also get an honourable mention. And last but not least, Brittany Elliott, who was the unknown X factor in the Marlins line-up.

This maybe the last time we see the great team the Marlins in the pool as a lot of the players in this team are finishing up at the end of the year. Hopefully we will have some suburb players to fill the large flippers that these girls will leave behind. It’s been a pleasure to ‘coach’ these fantastic ambassadors of Tamworth High, “Just keep Swimming!” “Marlins swim together!”

Mr. Vereyken
Cafeteria Specials

**Week Commencing 16/3/2015**

- **Cake Special**: Chock Chip Muffin $2.00
- **Snack Special**: Han & Cheese Croissant $1.50
- **Lunch Special**: Nachos $5.50

**Week Commencing 23/3/2015**

- **Cake Special**: Cup Cake $1.50
- **Snack Special**: Potato Rostie 60c
- **Lunch Special**: Chicken Schnitzel, Chips & Gravy $5.50

Gluten Free Sandwiches & Slices are available

**Monday Madness**: Hot Dog & can of soft drink

**Wednesday** is Smoothie Day - $3.00 each

The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey

Our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

Year 10 Work Experience Term 2

All Year 10 students, who are not attending the Northern Trip in Weeks 1 and 2 of Term 2, are required to secure Work Experience placements to cover this period.

A letter has been distributed to all parents outlining this program and if you require further information please contact Mrs Gleeson-Barker on 02 67657888 or 0477715647.

To improve vaccination completion, students will be opportunistically offered any missed doses throughout the year where possible.

Please note that for HPV vaccine only, parents/guardians must record their Medicare Number (all 10 digits and the 11th number beside the child’s name) on the consent form, as this is required to record the student’s information on the National HPV Vaccination Register and (for female students only) link to the National or State Cervical Screening Program.
NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM

Each year NSW Health works in partnership with schools to offer the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program.

In 2015 the following vaccines will be offered:

Year 7 students
- dTpa vaccine (Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis (whooping cough)) as a single dose
- varicella vaccine (chickenpox) as a single dose; and
- human papillomavirus (HPV vaccine in a 3-dose schedule at 0, 2 and 6 months (students who commence HPV vaccination in Year 7 but do not complete the course may be offered catch-up doses at school in Year 8)

Year 11-12 students
- measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine as a single dose as part of a catch-up vaccination program for students who are not fully protected.

PLEASE CHECK HOW MANY DOSES OF MMR VACCINE YOUR CHILD HAS RECEIVED BY CHECKING THEIR BABY VACCINATION BOOK (BLUE BOOK) OR CONTACTING MEDICARE ON 1800 653 809. IF THEY HAVE EVIDENCE OF TWO PREVIOUS DOSES – DO NOT COMPLETE THE CONSENT FORM.

- The Parent Information Kits contain a consent form, information sheet and privacy statement that details how personal information will be collected, stored and utilised.

- Consent form kits will be sent home to parents/guardians. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/guardians are advised to:
  - read all the information provided complete the consent form, including signing their name next to the vaccine/s they would like their child to receive
  - return the complete consent form to their child’s school ensure that their child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.

A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated at each clinic. Parents/guardians should ensure that this record is kept for future reference and should not assume that their child has been vaccinated if they do not receive this Record of Vaccination.

Naplan 2015

NAPLAN (National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy) is an annual assessment for students in Years 7 and 9. NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy.

Tamworth High School’s Year 7 and Year 9 students will participate in NAPLAN on the following dates:
- Tuesday May 12th – (Long Conventions 45min, Writing 40mins)
- Wednesday May 13th – (Reading 65min)
- Thursday May 14th - (Numeracy - Calculator 40min, Numeracy-non calculator 40min)

NAPLAN will be held in the school’s Hall and some students will have disability provisions on the days.

NB: All students require a scientific calculator for the numeracy calculator test.

To get a sense of the ‘look and feel’ of the tests and to understand what types of questions are asked, a full set of example NAPLAN tests is available. [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au)

Should you have any further questions please contact Mrs J O’Sullivan.
Vocal Performance Workshop

Following the success of the workshop in November 2014, Rob is coming back to Tamworth to lead another workshop. This will also be an audition opportunity to become a Featured Artist for CAPERS 2015 and prepare you for other audition opportunities and even an HSC.

Workshop leader

Robert McDougall is a graduate of Oxley High School who has passionately carved a career as a professional singer and performer. He has performed in countless School Spectaculars and CAPERS, graduated from the Talent Development Project, attended Sydney Conservatorium of Music and gained a Music degree (vocal major), workshoped and performed in New York and spent a year teaching at the Tamworth Conservatorium of Music. He is now in the professional cast of Les Miserables which is currently running in Sydney after the end of the Melbourne and Perth season. Robert has taken two days away from Les Miserables to come to Tamworth to lead this workshop. Robert has performed the role of Javert in this production which makes him the youngest person to play this role anywhere in the world!!

The workshop is ideally timed for our Year 11 and Year 12 students to set them on a path to a brilliant HSC result. They won't get a better opportunity outside Sydney!! It is also an opportunity for students of ALL ages to audition for a solo spot in CAPERS 2015. It can also prepare students to audition for School Spectacular and Talent Development Project.

Daniel Murray will be the accompanist for the workshop. He is a graduate of Tamworth High School who has returned from Newcastle with a Music degree (piano major). Daniel is also doing lots of professional arrangements for all types of ensembles. His arrangements have been performed at School Spectacular, Star Struck in Newcastle, Southern Stars in Wollongong and he has been the Musical Director of CAPERS since its inception.

Both of these young men are extraordinary musicians and we are privileged to have been involved in their musical development and for them to be willing to share their knowledge and experience. Don’t miss this opportunity.

CAPERS 2015 – The theme is ‘OUT OF THE BOX’.

You may like to consider the theme when selecting your song. Think of all the ‘types of boxes’ there are: eg Toy Box, Lunch Box, Telephone Box, Hat Box (Wardrobe), Coffins, Jute Box, Tool Box, Jewellery Box….the list is endless.

Venue: Tamworth Regional Conservatorium of Music, Marius Street, Tamworth 2340
Date: Tuesday 28 and Wednesday 29 April 2015
Time: 9.30 am – 3.30 pm each day
Who: Vocalists only
Cost: $60 per student

Your preparation as a participant is to:
1. Select a song to perform. A professional accompanist will be present to accompany you. You MUST provide the piano accompaniment for your song OR you can accompany yourself on a guitar.
2. Wear suitable performance gear which enhances your style of performance.
3. NO BACKING TRACKS PLEASE. The performance with accompaniment MUST be live. A professional accompanist will be provided.

Timetable

Day 1 Session 1 – Introduction and expectations of performance v rehearsal.
Session 2 – Practice techniques, warm ups
Session 2 – Each participant will perform a chosen song
Session 3 – Critique of performance

Day 2 Masterclass

Payment:

By cheque made payable to Tamworth High School but sent with the nomination form to
Di Hall
Arts Coordination Officer
PO Box 370
Tamworth 2340

OR

Send the attached form with NO payment and an invoice will be sent to you with instructions on payment by Direct Deposit. This will be sent to the email address you supply on the nomination form.

Forms may be emailed to me at dl.c.hall@det.nsw.edu.au

Closing Date 27 MARCH 2015

A Song Writing workshop will be held simultaneously.

Information available soon.

www.regionalartsnewengland.com.au