



The Buzz

Term 1 Week 5 - Friday 28 February 2020

Swimming Carnival



Thursday 20 February 2020 was our annual swimming carnival. A record number of students attended on the day, with the majority of students participating in events and activities throughout the day.

The day started with each house parading and chanting in an effort to secure the first house points of the day, which were awarded to Bruisbane.

In a well organised day, students and teachers took to the water in a variety of competitive and non competitive events.

The Tamworth High school spirit was live and well with senior students assisting the less confident swimmers to assist them in completing their events.

It wasn't all competitive with a number of fun activities on offer including the island race where teachers and students pile onto a blow up mattress and compete for house points.

Our year 12 students displayed great leadership and support by keeping the house chants and school spirit going all day.

Scully pool staff congratulated THS on a well organised day with exceptional student behaviour.

Photos are available on our website.

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Principals report

I hope that students and their families have had a restful and productive break and are ready for another great year at Tamworth High School. As always, it has been a busy but efficient start to the new school year, with the usual influx of new students at Tamworth High School.

I do need to commence by apologising for the issues with our phones during the first week, there being a problem with the Telstra lines which has been rectified. If you ever have difficulty contacting the school, please check the THS Website and Facebook pages for the latest updates including alternate phone numbers.

The holiday break was awash with regular news items about the terrible fires around the State followed closely by the impact of the Novel Coronavirus issue. Fortunately, it appears that THS has not been impacted by either of these issues and we have been able to get the academic year started with a full complement of teaching staff and some pending adjustments to some support staff positions in the pipeline.

I want to take this opportunity to introduce our new members of staff:

I'm pleased to announce that Mr Sam Langston will be relieving as DP for 2020, working alongside Ms Marshall, while Mrs Tina Poder will be relieving as Head Teacher CaPA for Mr Langston

Tom Guihot- English replacing Tristan Chapman

Simone Googe- TAS Food Tech. replacing Beth Ripley

Sophie Collins- PDHPE replacing Darren Desmid

Steve Lasscock- HSIE- Permanently appointed

Hannah Lonergan- Music- backfilling for Sam Langston

Over the break you may have noticed a significant amount of building maintenance and infrastructure such as the new electronic gates (Jean Street + Willis street). The new gates are a part of our improved safety and security protocols.

The Jean street gate is designed for vehicle access only, with a new student access gate and path a little further down the street entering into the Year 7 area onto the basketball courts. The main aim is to separate students from vehicle traffic entering and leaving the school.

The Willis street entrance has also benefitted from a new security gate which is equipped with video/voice

communication with our front office to enable entry/exit for visitors- parents are requested to use this entrance exclusively even though other gates are open at the beginning and end of the day for students.

We will of course be continuing with a refined version of our successful PREP Program each morning and the Literacy and Numeracy enrichment periods for years 7-10 that commenced in 2019.

There has been some concern expressed recently by a small number of parents about the current temperatures in some classrooms at Tamworth High School. We understand that the recent hot weather conditions led to some discomfort for students and staff- as such I felt it appropriate to provide some clarification on the various factors associated with this issue

A large number of classrooms are equipped with evaporative cooling at THS, which is regularly serviced. Unfortunately, evaporative cooling is less effective in humid conditions due to the recent (and very welcome) rain.

Tamworth High School has already been included in the first round of the 'Cooler Classrooms' program being delivered by the NSW Government. There is naturally a large number of schools included in this program and as such, the school has no control over the management of this infrastructure program.

The school actively encourages students to drink plenty of water throughout the day, both during breaks and whilst in class if required. However, it should be noted that students are required to fill water bottles during the ample break time provided, rather than class time.

During weather events such as the recent heat wave, Tamworth High School staff ensure that appropriate activities are undertaken during class and break time to ensure the wellbeing of students. We trust that parents will understand that the school is doing everything in their power to cope with the current weather conditions which are largely beyond our control.

To conclude, we received some great news during the long weekend break- one of our year 12 students from 2019, Bailey Woolridge, was announced as the winner of the Mitchell Brady Encouragement Award at the Australia Day ceremony held recently in the Community Centre. A well-deserved award!

Mr Daniel Wilson
Principal

TAMWORTH HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

WE WILL ROCK YOU

A **QUEEN** MUSICAL



TERM 2

**26TH & 27TH
JUNE**

Deputy report

Several new initiatives have been introduced for 2020 to ensure student focus is on learning during class time

- New out of class permission system where students who do not have a permission card from their teacher can expect to be returned to class
- The VIVO Points merit system which provides rewards for students for positive behaviour and application across a wide range of areas.
- The THS 'Coles Permission Card' for students who have applied for permission to visit the shops before or after school. Students without this card will be sent back to school by staff supervising this area.

OUT OF CLASS? YOU NEED A PASS

It is our desire to have all students in class engaged in learning, six periods a day. There are a limited number of students who struggle with this expectation. To help identify those students who are legitimately out of class and those who are not, we have introduced a card system.

This system allows for the teacher to provide students with a card to identify their purpose for being out of class. The card is colour coded for easy identification. As a staff member walks past a student out of class they can request to see the pass and, at a glance, know the purpose of the card. This will help staff direct students to the right locations and identify those students who have left class without permission.

The system has been running since the start of the year

and working well. Students are becoming accustomed to using the cards, as are staff. This is just one of many strategies being used across the school to address attendance, including whole day, late, partial and truancy concerns.

VIVO REWARDS FOR POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

In 2020 we are aiming to recognise more regularly the efforts of the majority of our students who do the right thing on a daily basis. VIVO is an online rewards program where students are allocated points for positive behaviours relating to the classroom, their role as a learner and community based activities. These points can then be converted into rewards in the online shop. Rewards include benefits throughout the school like first in bus lines and items for purchase like pens, chargers and other items targeted at a teen market.

VIVO points are not used as a lure for positive behaviour but rather aim to promote acknowledgment of those students who create a positive learning environment and school community. Students have been earning points in our school based reward categories since the start of the year and will be allocated their personal log on details and instructions for redeeming rewards in Week 5. Personal points are also added to house point totals, helping students contribute to their house totals through learning as well as participation in school carnivals and events.

Ms Megan Marshall
Deputy

Boys Advisor

Welcome to Mr Steve Lasscock, our newly appointed Ancient History Teacher and first THS boys advisor.

Mr Lasscock is looking forward to the boys advisor role saying, "I have a long history of engagement with teenagers through various sporting organisations and previous employment. I am aware of the impact certain environments can have on the physical and mental health of all of our students, especially HSC exam time, bullying and social issues."

"I am committed to providing an additional level of support to all of our students, particularly our male students who may feel more comfortable speaking to a male teacher. I work closely with our year advisers, classroom teachers and school counsellors to ensure all of our students receive the highest levels of support", Mr Lasscock said.





TOILET PASS

Wellbeing Faculty



The colour of the card is linked to the action. This is a convenient way for a staff member to be able to identify the card and the purpose as a student moves through the school.

Each card has an image that corresponds to the purpose of the card. This is to assist with those students with poor literacy skills and the easy identification of the card.

Additional cards for:

- Messages
- Classroom assistance
- First Aid

VIVO REWARD CATEGORIES

CHARACTER: How a student manages their own behaviours	COOPERATION: How a student manages their own behaviours specifically in the learning environment	COMMUNITY: How a student manages their own behaviours when engaging with the wider community
Communicating with care: speaking in a polite and respectful manner, no swearing, positive language, supportive of peers.	Self-management: stays seated, follows instructions, no phone use including headphones, raises hand to speak, speak at appropriate volume and tone.	Promotes a positive image: Wears the uniform with pride, speaks with respect, additional representation and involvement.
Being in the right place, at the right time, in the right way: attending class on time, lining up quietly at the start of lesson, in bounds	Cooperative environment: takes turns, works as a team, respects others opinions, pulls own weight in learning tasks, respecting the right of others to learn	Keep it clean: committed to a clean environment, picking up rubbish when asked, using bins appropriately, recycling, being water wise, care for school equipment and equipment of others.
Readiness to learn: right equipment for lesson, correct footwear, container for cooking	Active learner: engaging with learning material, contributing to lessons appropriately, meeting success criteria	Leading the way: demonstrated leadership skills, classroom, school leadership, cultural, sporting, extra-curricular.
Learning Behaviours: homework, handing in assessments on time, improved task performance	Care and Concern for others: Concern for others in need, seeking appropriate support, reporting negative behaviours, mentor, volunteer work.	Practising participation: participation in school activities including carnivals, fund raisers, student projects, musical, sporting teams and events as a competitor or as a part of the management team.





P&C News

The P&C AGM will take place on Tuesday 17 March 2020 at 6.30pm in the THS Library. All are welcome to come along and encouraged to have input. Entry is via Willis Street.

Calendar

Week 6

2 March through to 6 March 2020

	Year 12 construction work placement
2 March	Open Girls Basketball gala day
3 March	Health Careers Forum
6 March	Year 11 Biology Fieldtrip
6 March	International Womens Day

Week 7

10 March	Year 7 2021 Expo
11 March	Boys Rugby Union trials
13 March	NorthWest Water Polo trials and knockout games

Week 8

17 March	School photo catchup day
17 March	CHS Boys and Girls Hockey trials
18 March	Year 7 vaccinations
18 March	All Schools Fast Five Netball carnival
20 March	Willowtree Horse Sports
20 March	NSW Secondary Aboriginal dance workshop
20 March	National day of action against bullying and violence

Week 9

3 March through to 27 March

	New England Music Camp
25 to 27 March	Futsal Championships
26 March	All schools Touch gala day
26 March	Parent/Teacher interviews
26/27 March	Year 7 HSIE Fieldwork trip

Week 10

31 March	Year 7 vaccinations
31 March	Parent/Teacher interviews
3 April	Cross Country Carnival
3 April	Open Boys Touch gala day

ProActivePHYSIOTHERAPY
& SPORTS WORKSHOP


Open Day

SAT 14 MARCH

9am - 12pm

FREE ENTRY

PRESENTATIONS FOOD + PRIZES

 Find us on Facebook for more info.



YEAR 7 2021 EXPO

Tuesday 16 March 2020
6.00pm THS Cafeteria

This is your opportunity to engage with the teaching and executive staff at Tamworth High School. Our school will be on show and ready to answer your questions about your child's enrolment and education at a quality public high school.

Each faculty will be on display to excite and inform you about what's on offer at THS. Interactive displays, lucky door prizes and face to face time with our teachers.

Supper will be served by our HSC Hospitality students with short performances by our CaPA students.

Let us show you what THS is really all about!

All Welcome!



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