



YASS HIGH SCHOOL

We value respect, responsibility, safety and learning.

Acting Principal: Louise Pinson BA (Hons) Dip Ed

Relieving Deputy Principal: Dawn Bartlett BSc, Dip Ed

New Directions, Renewed Focus

I am honoured to have been invited to take on the role of Acting Principal of Yass High School for the second half of 2011. It is both exciting and daunting to be leading a high school in regional NSW at the start of the second decade of the 21st century. The world our students are experiencing is very different to the one I grew up in and it will continue to change, in ways we will have trouble imagining. In this environment it is important that we focus on helping our students become critical thinkers, creative individuals and successful learners who are able to work cooperatively to solve problems and live satisfying lives.



Two of my own areas of interest, both of which are in line with regional, state and national priorities, are Aboriginal Education and sustainability. Last Monday, Debbie Wray, Regional Aboriginal Education Consultant addressed the staff on her role and the importance of cultural awareness training. Staff will be trained on this when courses become available later in the year. In coming weeks, we hope to involve students in an environmental audit to assess how resources are being used and make plans for lessening our carbon footprint.

In addition, this term we will continue to focus on preparing students for their HSC exams (their trial exams will be held in Weeks 5 and 6), working with our partner primary schools on activities to ensure a smooth transition to high school and further developing skills and strategies as part of our Positive Behaviour for Success program.

This year we celebrate Education week (1-5 August) with our popular Talent Quest which will be held in our school hall on Thursday 4th August. Tickets will be sold at school during the week. In addition, examples of student work will be on display at the town library.



I encourage all parents and carers to continue their involvement in the education of their children which we, as teachers, know is very much a team effort.

Solo to group, original composition to cover songs, juggling to drama, instrumental to dance, textile to visual art.....

YASS HIGH SCHOOL WE'VE GOT TALENT!

Education Week is celebrated each year by showcasing the wonderful programs and initiatives happening in public schools across the state.

Our students, parents and the school community are invited to participate in these celebrations by way of attending the 3rd annual YHS Talent Quest;

Thursday, 4th August 2011

The theme for Education Week 2011 is *NSW Public Schools - creating the future*. And WOW! When you see what our students are able to produce, we know the Future is in good hands.

Students across all years have been invited to audition for the extravaganza, resulting in 19 quality performances, supported by an amazing visual arts display, fashion show and guest performers.

Not only can we celebrate what is happening on stage and around the hall but the capability and expertise brought to the evening by our backstage students and support crew; makeup artists, technical support, prop management, lighting, sound, ticket sellers, ushers, reporters, photographers.

It really is a student event, showcasing our student abilities and talents.

Supporting the Talent Quest is easy.....just buy a ticket and enjoy!

Tickets will be on sale Monday 1st, Tuesday 2nd, and Wednesday 3rd August.

A ticket office will be set up in the Hall for all ticket purchases.

SINGLE: \$3.00

FAMILY: \$7.00 (2 ADULTS AND 2 CHILDREN)

Doors will open at 6.30 for Art-chi-prize voting and seating, performances will begin promptly at 7pm. Late arrivals will be asked to wait to enter the Hall between performances to avoid distraction to any of the performers.

There will be an intermission where students from our SRC (student representative council) will have a canteen available for drinks and snacks.

The audience are invited to vote for their favourite artwork by lodging a vote (it costs \$1.00) at the designated desk in the foyer. Voting can take place before the main performances begin or during the intermission.

All tickets must be pre-purchased as there will not be any ticket sales at the door.

SEE YOU THERE!

Pierre de Coubertin Award winner

Last term, Year 12 student Tom Pinson went to Sydney to take part in a series of seminars focusing on the ideals of Olympism and to receive the Pierre de Coubertin Award which celebrates the Olympic spirit and the ideals of sport and sportsmanship.

Tom was nominated for the award not so much because of his sporting achievements but because of his attitude to sport and to others. Throughout his time at Yass High School, Tom participated enthusiastically in all sporting activities and opportunities. He has been involved in coaching junior students in cricket, has been encouraging and fair as a team leader and is gracious in defeat. He is a deserving winner and the award acknowledges his long term commitment to sport at our school.

Tom plans on being actively involved in sport when he goes to university next year, hoping to add the occasional game of squash to cricket and soccer playing.



Tom Pinson receives the Pierre de Coubertin Award

Safe Use of the School Roads

Recently an article appeared in the Yass Tribune outlining the safest procedures for dropping off and picking up students from school.

Key points are:

- The roadway into the school is a shared zone. Drivers must keep to the right of the double lines with pedestrians and cyclists sharing the other lane.
- Parents and carers should drive around the right hand corner and use the marked drop off zone on the left hand side of the exit road in the morning. Students should leave the left hand side of the vehicle and walk into the school via the pedestrian crossing near the Admin block.
- In the afternoon, because more cars arrive at once, parents may have to park on the right hand side of the exit road as well. They should ensure that they are off the roadway, parking on the grassy area. Students should check and, if their parents are on the right hand side of the road, use the pedestrian crossing closest to T block (the metalwork room).
- To avoid congestion in the afternoon, parents are encouraged to pick up their sons and daughters from the pool car park which is a short walk from the school.
- Students should only cross the road at the marked pedestrian crossings. They should not be allowed out of a vehicle onto the road.
- Parents should not park in the bus zone during the morning arrival and afternoon departure period.
- If parents or carers are coming into the school, they are asked to park in our car park.

We thank all drivers for their cooperation.



Holidays? What are they?

During the school 'holidays', many of us were hard at work.

Technical Support Officer, Sam Columb together with DER Regional Support Officer, Guy Miech, worked on reimaging all laptops belonging to Year 10 and 11 students. This work updated programs so the computers will be an even more impressive learning tool for students.

Ms Louise Pinson (Acting Principal), Mrs Dawn Bartlett (Relieving Deputy Principal) and Mr John Duncan (Relieving Head Teacher Mathematics) all spent days at school moving offices and making plans for their new positions.



Relieving Deputy Principal
Mrs Dawn Bartlett



Relieving Head Teacher Mathematics
Mr John Duncan

Ms Halley-Barberis and students from Year 12 were busy putting the finishing touches to their Textile major projects which form an important part of their HSC assessment.

Ron Davis and Steven Deronne, our general assistants, completed a number of projects, working often in freezing conditions. Read about one of their discoveries elsewhere in InTouch.

Supporting Your Child's Learning at High School

Academic studies show there is a strong link between family involvement in student learning and the overall benefits for students, including increased academic performance.

'When schools, families and community groups work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more.' (Henderson and Mapp, 2002 p.7)

Studies also show that there are specific practices adopted by parents of successful students.

'The researchers discovered that parents of high-achieving students had distinct styles of interacting with their children. They created emotionally supportive home environments and provided reassurance when youngsters encountered failure. They viewed school performance as being accomplished through regular practice and work. They accepted responsibility for assisting their children to acquire learning strategies, as well as a general fund of knowledge.' (Finn 1998 p. 20)

Last week, as part of Parent Teacher Evening, Ms Pinson ran an information session in the school library. Parents and carers were informed about a number of excellent websites which will help them work with their children to develop effective learning strategies. You are encouraged to check out the following sites:

www.tale.edu.au

www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

<http://www.myfuture.edu.au/>

<http://lrrpublic.cli.det.nsw.edu.au/lrrSecure/Sites/LRRView/10457/index.htm>

You can help you child by encouraging a few good habits:

- Go through the day with your child at the end of the day. What subjects did you have? What did you do? What was the most important idea? What do you still have questions about? What do you think will come next?
- Give a regular time and place for homework.
- Help plan assignments – divide up tasks, set time limits, leave enough time to seek help.

Lots of great learning happens outside a classroom and these activities develop important skills and understandings:

- Share your hobbies and passions with your child.
- Read, view and write together.
- Travel and marvel.
- Introduce them to interesting people.
- Help them find connections.

Finally, remember the helpful information on our School Website:

- <http://www.yass-h.schools.nsw.edu.au>
- For YHS Daily Info
- Principal's Blog
- Online Calendar
- Assessment Calendars

Year 10 into 11 Information Night

What better way to spend Census Night than at the high school, learning about the transition from Year 10 to Year 11. Subjects being offered and the choice process will be explained and there will be an opportunity to ask questions. We hope to see lots of Year 10 parents there on Tuesday 9th August starting at 7pm. Students are welcome too.



Invitation to Parents/Carers of Year 10 students

- What:** An information evening where school staff will explain the procedures for selecting subjects for Year 11, and answer questions you have about subjects that are offered at Yass HS for the HSC.
- Why:** To assist students and their parents in making decisions about subjects for Years 11 and 12.
- When:** 7.00pm Tuesday 9th August 2011
- Where:** Yass High School Library

The HSC Subject Information Booklet will be distributed to students. This will outline the courses that will be offered at Yass High School for Year 11 students in 2012.

Course preferences, on the sheet provided, must be completed and returned to the Front Office by **Friday 26th August 2011**. From these course preferences, the students will be enrolled in classes for 2012.

Should you require any information prior to this evening, or if you cannot attend but would like a copy of the HSC Subject Information Booklet sent to you, either phone (6226 1711) or fax (6226 3174) the school for assistance.

If you have family or friends who have children, but live outside the Yass region, who may wish to enrol in Year 11 at Yass HS in 2012, please let them know about this information evening. The booklet can be sent to them by contacting the school.

School contact via SMS

Last year, the school was involved in a program where parents could nominate to be contacted by SMS about their child's attendance and about upcoming school events. This was a trial program and, being a small school, it was not financially viable to sign up for it this year.

Parents who have concerns over their child's attendance should contact the school to make an appointment to discuss how they can support their child and school with an option to receive a text message if they do not arrive at school.

Young locals fight global hunger for our closest neighbours.

A group of 150 young people from Yass High School and Mt Carmel have joined together to support the 40 Hour Famine on 19-21 August 2011.

Participants in the 40 Hour Famine give up something important to them for 40 hours to raise awareness and funds to fight global hunger.

The group hopes to raise \$5000 this year for the 40 Hour Famine and welcomes support from the community.

World Vision expects around 300,000 young people around Australia will this year go without something important to them to raise money for this worthy cause.

Nearly one billion people around the globe suffer from chronic hunger. This year, the 40 Hour Famine focuses on our closest neighbours in East Timor, just 600km from Darwin, where malnutrition affects nearly half of all children.

The 40 Hour Famine occurs nationally from 19-21 August. To find out more or sign up visit www.40hourfamine.com



Celebration Assemblies

First semester ended on a high note with year assemblies to celebrate student achievement. As well as their reports many students received Faculty Awards for Effort or Achievement in one or more subjects. Students who received Faculty Awards in a majority of subjects also received a School Award. A few outstanding students who received Faculty Awards in every subject studied, gained a Principal's Award of Excellence.

Faculty Awards are nominated by the classroom teacher for sustained effort or achievement throughout the semester.

Congratulations to all students who received awards and thanks to those parents who attended. 250 proud parents attended during the day, a wonderful indication of the extent of parental support for our school.

Community Tree Planting

On Friday 29th July, a small group of students will be joining students from other local schools in a community exercise to improve our environment. They will be helping plant trees in the river restoration area near the school. Mrs Chapman, who has a keen interest in the environment will supervise and assist in this very worthwhile activity.



Yass Music Club Scholarship Certificates awarded

At a concert on 17th July, certificates were awarded to six local students, acknowledging the scholarships they received to assist with their musical studies.



Four of the six boys are from Yass High School and represent the depth of musical talent at the school. Ross Armour plays a range of instruments including piano and saxophone, Dallas Dunley composes his own music, sings and plays guitar, Tom Pinson plays piano and percussion and Craig Wilkinson plays guitar and saxophone. They are pictured with the other two scholarship holders: Rowan Phemister and Ben Stevens.

Time Capsule Discovered

While General Assistants Ron Davis and Steven Deronne were busy cleaning out under the hall during the holidays, they came across a time capsule 'buried' in August 1986. That year, the school celebrated 25 years of classes on the site. (Parents will remember that in 2008 we celebrated 50 years since the official opening of Yass High School, commemorated in the foundation stone which can be seen on the wall as you enter the school).

The capsule contained a range of items such as copies of the Yass Tribune, tickets to a dinner dance, an edition of the school magazine, Yawongi and examples of student work. Ron Davis was delighted to find a photo of himself as a young basketball player in one of the newspapers.

We hope to display the capsule during Education week, alongside modern day examples of similar items. We will add these to the capsule and rebury it, hopefully for another 25 years.

Year 9 English - Picture Books

All Year 9 English classes recently completed the unit "Analysing Picture Books". As part of this unit, students had to create their own picture books. This was quite a challenge as the picture books had to incorporate both visual and written texts in order to tell a social message which was appropriate for young children. We were particularly impressed with the high standard of the picture books created in all classes and congratulate students on the effort they put into this task.

Picture books created by students in Ms Shannon and Miss Swinbourn's class are currently on display at Yass Library and we encourage you to take this opportunity to have a look at their work.



Being the Youth Member of Parliament for Burrinjuck

This year, I have had the privilege of representing our state electorate known as Burrinjuck in the NSW Youth Parliament. Represented by our local member, Katrina Hodgkinson, it was an experience that is once, and hopefully twice, in a lifetime.

Commencing with a training and residential camp, it gave me the opportunity to meet approximately 90 other representatives, who all brought their own experiences, skills and talents to the Youth Parliament. In addition to the Youth Members, we met several members of parliament, discovering that when they are not fighting in the bear pit (a colloquial name for the NSW Legislative Assembly between parliamentarians); they are definitely displaying their senses of humour and listening to the concerns of their electorate.



Nathan Furry, the Honourable Youth Member for Burrinjuck (2011)

Passionate debate was exchanged between both sides of the house on various issues, several which caused the speaker to constantly boom 'order' in all directions. The Bills presented by all parliamentary committees, which were ten in total, were very well constructed and reflected the quality created by ten years of YMCA Youth Parliament in New South Wales.

It was of equal importance to discover the tenth bill to be presented to the tenth Youth Parliament would be from my own committee, Youth Affairs. Our Bill, the Same-Sex Discrimination in Schools 2011, passed with approximately eight against its passing. By passing this bill, the concept of discrimination based on sexual preference, usually resulting in refusal of admittance, suspension, or expulsion in a private or independent school is now one step closer to eradication. The Bill outlines the removal of an exemption in the New South Wales anti-discrimination act, one which is rarely exercised today but now remains a large legal loophole for those who wish to continue to discriminate.

For the rest of 2011, I will continue to listen to the problems facing our electorate and assisting in creating a solution. At the conclusion of this role, I will be actively promoting the Youth Parliament program to Youth in our electorate so that Burrinjuck will continue to be a prominent and active member for the youth of New South Wales.

By Nathan Furry

Teachers Learn Too

During the last week of Term 2, I was very privileged to spend some time at the Novotel Hotel on North Beach in Wollongong. I was there to complete six service periods in the kitchens of the hotel in order to update and maintain my professional development in teaching Hospitality students. It was a very eye opening experience as I worked from 7:00am – 7:30pm in the bowels of the hotel. I certainly didn't get to enjoy the view of the beach as I slugged it out each day.

I was very keen to learn new tricks and these were provided to me by a number of very talented chefs who were more than happy to have a new face in the kitchen. I was lucky to have the experience of preparing food items that were to be served during an Epicure club function on the Tuesday evening of my stay. For this I prepared some stuffed mushroom canapés, garlic croutes, rice paper rolls with a twist, roasted chestnut soup, brandied duck and some poached quinces for dessert. It should be noted that the Epicure club are a culinary club based in Wollongong who are notoriously fussy about their food....

For one of my days, I worked closely with the four pastry chefs who are responsible for all of the wonderful sweet selections on the Novotel buffet and function menu. No premade sweets here! It's all done by hand and you can taste the difference. We made brownies, éclairs, chocolate truffles, slices and cakes of all descriptions. I think I'd have to say that although I don't really have the sweetest tooth, it was by far the most fun I had while I was in the Novotel kitchens.

My experience was really fantastic, all of the staff and the chefs I worked with were warm and welcoming and for all the budding chefs in Hospitality – a great work placement option.

Sally Walker - Hospitality

What's happening in Food Technology?

Year 9 and 10 Food Tech students have shown a great talent and skill in designing some fantastic cupcakes and styling a cupcake photograph. They learnt about Food Trends last term and one of the biggest food trends is cupcakes. Students' learnt skills in decorating cupcakes with icing and fondant, learning how to pipe icing and cream and how to model fondant icing. I think we have some budding designers and pastry chefs amongst them!



Eileen Dowling



Tori Brewer



Lalia Kassouh



Kathleen McGrath



Andrew Stephen



Rachel McLucas

SUPPORT YOUR BREKKY CLUB.....

BE IN THE DRAW TO WIN A 40" FLAT SCREEN TV.....

IT'S EASY!

1. THE WALKATHON WILL BE HELD 10TH AUGUST, DURING WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SPORT TIME (PERIODS 6 & 7)
2. ASK FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO SPONSOR YOU IN OUR WALKATHON – THEY DO THIS BY NOMINATING AN AMOUNT OF MONEY WHICH THEY WILL PAY TO YOU TO COMPLETE THE WALKATHON COURSE (ABOUT 3KMS)
3. FILL IN THE SPONSOR DETAILS ON YOUR SPONSORSHIP CARD
4. **ALL** SPONSORSHIP CARDS MUST BE HANDED IN TO YOUR ROLL CALL TEACHER ON THE MORNING OF THE WALKATHON – SPONSORED AMOUNTS WILL BE CALCULATED, YOUR FORMS WILL BE FINALISED
5. YOUR SPONSORSHIP FORM WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU WHEN YOU COMPLETE THE WALKATHON COURSE
6. ALL MONIES MUST BE COLLECTED AND HANDED IN BY 17TH AUGUST (ONE WEEK AFTER THE WALKATHON)

STUDENTS MAY COLLECT SOME OR ALL SPONSORED MONEY PRIOR TO THE WALKATHON.

YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO HAND IN ANY MONEY COLLECTED BEFORE THE WALKATHON TO THE FRONT OFFICE

OR

HAND IN COLLECTED MONEY WITH YOUR SPONSORSHIP CARD TO YOUR ROLL CALL TEACHER THE MORNING OF THE WALKATHON.

BE SURE TO SECURE ALL MONEY SAFELY IN AN ENVELOPE CLEARLY MARKED WITH YOUR NAME AND ROLL CALL.

NEW DET
YASS HIGH SCHOOL
"WE'VE GOT TALENT!"

THURSDAY 4TH AUGUST, 2011
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 FOR ART VIEWING
AND VOTING

The 'Art-chi-Prize'
 Browse, Enjoy,
 Vote for your favourite

Lodge your nomination at the registration desk in the foyer.
 It costs just \$1.00 to lodge a vote. Each artwork has a number—just nominate which number you are voting for.
 The artist whose artwork attracts the most votes during the evening will take as reward all the 'voting \$'s'

Who knows.....we may have a future Archibald Prize winner amongst us!




A Whole Lot of Fashion

We have all heard of people who model clothes, and I'm sure some of you have imagined what it would be like to walk along a runway and be admired because of your clothes. Well some students from our school got that chance. Recently Tayla Robinson, Naomi Menzies, Tiffanni Alridge and Stacey Alcorn all modelled clothes for an alpaca company called 'Absolutely Alpaca'. We got to model with some other guys who were also having a go Daniel Villigotta and Ben Menzies.



Stacey Alcorn, Tiffanni Alridge, Tayla Robinson and Naomi Menzies showing off some shawls made from alpaca wool.

It was a fun filled weekend full of smiles and laughter. The lady running it treated us like real models which added that extra touch, and as a thankyou they let us keep an item of clothing made from alpaca wool. We all had a great day and one day maybe you could have that chance.

Student Laptop Hardware Remediation and Software Update

As part of the ongoing support provided for the Digital Education Revolution at Yass High School, Technical Support Officer, Sam Columb and technicians from Lenovo have been remediating hardware problems, replacing bases, tops and hinges on the 2009 laptops, and upgrading all software to the latest set (the same as the 2011 laptops). This includes Office 2010 and the latest versions of the Adobe Packages.



The laptops were collected the week before the holidays and Sam worked through the student holidays to copy the images to around 250 laptops, check them, recommission them and allocate them back to students. Laptops found with damage will be further investigated and a repair program undertaken.

Students will now all have access to the latest learning tools. They are required to care for their laptops and bring them to school every day, fully charged, ready to learn.

New student portal – a gateway to learning

A new student portal has been developed to support the different needs of students from Yass High School.

The portals are accessible from both home and school. The new URL is: <http://student.det.nsw.edu.au> so please change all bookmarks and links for the student portal to this new URL.

Enhanced features include being able to search, access and organise information for school tasks via the student portal on computers used at home or at school, at any time. Dates can be added into a calendar portlet as reminders for assessment tasks, homework and other important events and colours/layouts can also be customised. Students can add links to important sites for their learning like “Timeview”, their timetables online, the School Website, School Calendar, Online Learning Centre (moodle), and organise their day with the prominent individual timetable.

As part of our commitment to improving the organisational skills of all our students, teachers will be introducing students to the new portal in their classes.

Year 11 Primary Industries Workplacement

In the last few weeks students studying Primary Industries (Vocational Education Training) at Yass High School have been visiting local workplaces to gain on-the-job experience as part of their studies.

Many local businesses and farms have been generous in their support and the school would like to thank them for their valuable contribution to the education of our students: Matthew Doyle of 'Glenryan', Darren Pascoe of Murrumbateman Rural Supplies, Chris Copeland of Landmark Copeland Medway, Stuart Williams and staff of Yass Vet. Hospital, Mark McConnell of Hall, Rodney Oldfield of Yass, Doug and Helena Painting of "Deepwater" Bookham, Paul Turner of Turner's Wholesale Nursery, Richard Buckmaster of "Roseville" Yass, Brad Pellow of 'Bobbara Station' Galong, Michael Turner of "Sunrise" Gunning.

Workplacement has resulted in many of the students actually gaining employment after leaving school with the businesses and farms they have visited and goes to show the valuable role the program plays in education and the wider community.



Paul Turner and Jono Muscat at
Turner's Wholesale Nursery



Abby Cartwright tends to one of the
patients outside at the YVH



Brandan Bush at Landmark Copeland Medway



Casey Edwards in centre with Dr
Stuart Williams and Caitlin Ball in full
flight at Yass Veterinary Hospital

Year 9/10 Automotive Class

The Year 9/10 Automotive class has acquired a number of engines and carburettors thanks to the generosity of a couple of local firms. These have enabled students to gain valuable “hands on” experience and better appreciate the theory they have “endured”. Talking about 4 stroke operation and the way it is achieved is one thing, however, when the motor is dismantled and the working parts are examined, students get a better and longer lasting knowledge of the process.



Year 9 students in the process of dismantling a Suzuki motor. This activity certainly made the boys appreciate a range of mechanical skills.

Special thanks to Shane at “Shanes Car and Cycles” for the engines and to Mark at “Yass Outdoor Power Centre” for the carburettor.

Year 12 Construction

During 2011 Dallas Dunley of year 12 completed his folding step ladder that can turn into a chair. This was completed in construction. Mr Hansson said “he required focusing skills which he demonstrated with his final product”. Dallas was proud of his efforts.

Woolworths Earn & Learn

Woolworths is giving away \$5 million worth of educational resources to Primary and Secondary school right across Australia! The list includes library books, classroom equipment, art & craft materials and much more.

Too help gather Woolworths Earn & Learn points bring your Woolworths dockets into school and place them in the box at the front office.



Dallas Dunley with his combination step ladder/ chair.

Another challenging construction project with satisfying rewards.

Not just a Library!It's an Information and Resource Centre

Headlining this month: Read, Watch, Blog, Post, Play, Talk, Find, Study, Cooperate, Conference, Participate.....Have Fun!

Yass High School is integral to our community, as such our Information and Resource Centre is not only a centre for learning and resources for our students but also for the broader community.

With only one month left in this year's Premiers Reading Challenge (PRC) students are madly reading away continuing to accumulate books on their reading log. All it takes to complete the Challenge is to read 20 recognised books. It's not too late to register and you can log books which you have read since September 2010. If you would like to register, or update your reading log, then see Ms Rajchert in the Library.

Library 3 and 4, the connecting study rooms off the main Library, continues to develop into a multi-purpose learning and technology area. Continuing to build on its use as a senior study and senior library, it can also accommodate small classes, particularly those wishing to access our video conferencing facilities. The room/s also provide a centre for our distance education students to undertake their studies.

For all of our movie buffs, the YHS Movie Mania Club (MMC) Blog is up and going. Joining the MMC is easy,.....just register your interest with Ms Rajchert and start 'blogging'. To begin this month we will be looking at popular themes and techniques in animation.

Supporting an interactive and cooperative learning environment for students to utilize the Library continues to provide a selection of traditional board games, cards, etc. Board games foster a student's desire to master new skills and concepts. Just by playing them, board games can support the strengthening of important social skills. Students are reminded to be respectful of the equipment and ensure all games are correctly packed away.

Hosting special events has featured greatly in our Library calendar over the past month: Senior Curriculum Information sessions, Careers day, Aboriginal Womens conference, Maths Club gathering student vaccinations just to name a few. The Library continues to develop into a hub for student activity, providing access to student timetables, library catalogues and collections, numerous student notices, careers information, technology and our Technical support Officer (TSO), Mr Sam Columb.

Beyond all our wonderful activities and initiatives, there are BOOKS! New titles include: *Imaginary Girls* by Nova Ren Suma, *Act of Faith* by Kelly Gardiner, *All I Ever Wanted* by Vikki Wakefield. *A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness. We have also recently purchased *In the Sea there are Crocodiles* by Fabo Gedda, the true story of a 10yr old Afghan refugee boy (a story which further explores the experiences explored in an earlier acquisition to our collection: *Kabul to Kinglake*). The act of reading has so many facets; to learn, to entertain, to report, to present, to document, to enjoy, to research, to communicate, to understand. Our Information and Resource Centre supports and encourages all and more.

Remember every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, the Centre will be open till 4:15pm supporting student learning providing a place for study, homework, research, and organization. Students are still able to enjoy the convenience of the Centre opening at 8:30am each school day.

Maths Club Excursion to Point Wolstoncroft

It was an icy morning as the members of the Maths Club gathered excitedly before heading off to Point Wolstoncroft. Everyone was eager to get to the camp and start having fun but we did have to take the six hour bus ride beforehand. Club members kept themselves occupied during the trip by singing to each other, and engaging in some “advanced probability experiments”.

As the bus made its way further north we were able to detect the change in temperature with everybody out of their jumpers by the time we arrived.

When we arrived, we were served a sausage sizzle for lunch and then sent to our lodgings, which had a wonderful view of the lake (10 metres from the edge). We fought over the best beds in the rooms and then headed off to our first activity, The Challenge Ropes Course.



The ropes course had a simulator that everybody had to endure before being allowed to climb the ladder. The low side was 5 metres off the ground and was a test of the mettle for everybody. All but Miss Young managed to get to the top of the ladder. Some decided to choose against going out on the course but others seemed to be able to do it with ease, until Dimitri and Zack got swooped by a Kookaburra. The high side was about 8 metres off the ground at its highest point and had a few trickier elements. Again all who climbed the ladder had a blast.

That night, after a wonderful baked dinner, we headed into Newcastle. We checked out the heart of the town travelling past Civic Park, Town Hall and Newcastle Train Station as we headed to Nobby's Beach, the Lighthouse and the Breakwall. We even travelled down Pasha Way. We then headed back to camp around the beaches of Newcastle along Scenic Drive.

The next day we began with kayaking. A local primary school was also at the camp and thought we were all insane for going in the water but as we said they should go to Yass, they think it gets cold in Newcastle. While the water was a tad chilly it was okay if you stayed in the boat something Morgan and Josh managed to avoid. During the morning fruit break our instructor Matt challenged us to a shoe kicking contest. Standing behind a few members was dangerous as they kicked their shoe behind them but Erick was the champion beating Matt's kick by mere centimetres.

The return to the boatshed was interrupted by a quick game of kayak netball, the result of which will differ depending on who you talk to.

The afternoon was filled with a spot of rock climbing. Everyone had a go at this and some even raced each other to the top. The setup of the activity meant that everyone had to support each other to stay safe while on the wall and in order to face and conquer some personal challenges. Stacey and Lachlan proved to be quite the climbers at this activity.



After the wall it was off to the Archery range. The group listened well during the safety talk and this showed in their efforts with a few getting close to the bullseye.

We had a great afternoon, especially when Matt started the game of Archery Cricket. The club members showed their competitive natures with Kahlie hitting the bullseye to put an early end to her opposition's efforts.

Before dinner there was plenty of free time. The boys headed straight to the giant checkers board. James swept away all challengers to be undefeated on the afternoon. There was also a giant chess board which was used by a number of the group.

After dinner it was time for Giant Swing. After some technical difficulties with the lights we began without them. Jarrah was the brave soul who went first without lights. Everyone soon faced new challenges and enjoyed themselves immensely. All the members did have a few complaints about the full body harnesses we had to wear with a few even saying they got wedgies. The boys, however, had the most complaints!

The last morning of the camp we enjoyed a delicious pancake breakfast before completing clean-up duty. Each member got the chance to do the dishes with a few arguments about who would use the high-pressure hose and who would do other jobs in the scullery. It was a quick job as there was a small number in for breakfast.

After breakfast it was off to the bike shed. Matt led the way along a bush track, stopping every so often so the back markers could catch up. Some of the stops had interesting stories such as the origins of the shed in the middle of the bush, the old abseiling cliffs and an activity about natural environments. At the end of the track, 3 kilometres later, we visited a traditional Awabakal site. Matt spoke to the students about how the site was used and how the Awabakal, the local aboriginal

people, lived around the area. He also spoke to the group about a nearby island, Pullbar Island, and how it was a prime area for bull and hammerhead sharks (luckily this was after we went kayaking).

About half way back, we stopped for a fruit break. Matt told us of a different track that test the riding ability of some of the group. Four members opted out of that track but the rest accepted the challenge. We split up with Miss Young taking the four back via the original track and then waiting for the rest. The six who took the challenge bragged about how good it was and about how much fun they had.

After lunch the camp was over and it was time to head back to Yass. The club members entertained themselves in much the same way as the trip up except for the quiet time when half of them were asleep (a golden period of the trip). We arrived back around 6 pm and everyone was excited to see their families again.

Many thanks to the Maths Club members for their exemplary attitudes and behaviour across the three days. It made being the teacher in charge an absolute pleasure.

Special thanks to Mr David Halley, who not only made the trip possible by driving the bus, but also made each activity that much more enjoyable by his presence. Thank you very much.

The Maths Club meets on Tuesday afternoons after school and on Friday's during lunch. New members are always welcome and information about the club can be sought through the Maths Faculty or by seeing Miss Deanne Young.



Maths Club Story Time

Our Teachers are Sports Stars Too

Craig Barrett

Craig Barrett is currently coaching the Australian team at the 6th WTF World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships in Vladivostok, Russia. The three-day annual event, which will take place at the 1,061-seat Olympiys sports complex, is expected to attract about 570 athletes from 52 countries.

Mr Barrett has previously represented Australia in the last four World Championships and has taken over the coaching duties this year.

“Mainly my role will be to get athletes ready and helping manage the team. I’ll be helping the athletes get mentally prepared,” Barrett said.

He was named Yass Valley Council Sportsperson of the Year earlier this year for his achievements in Taekwondo.



Australian Taekwondo Team



Tracey Bills

Sports Organiser and PDHPE teacher Tracey Bills continued her successful association with the South Coast Touch Team in the NSW Combined High Schools Touch Championship. She coached the team in last week's Championships in Milperra playing in very wet and cold conditions to achieve 6th place. Miss Bills has been coaching the team since 1992, a very long association with a very successful team. She brings the skills back to her teaching, coaching and organising each day at Yass High School.



Noel Donohoe

Yass High relief teacher, Noel Donohoe recently took the Australian Men's 35 to the World Championships in Edinburgh Scotland as Manager and Selector. From the 12 teams competing in their division they were fortunate enough to win through to the final undefeated against South Africa who they defeated to take out the title.

Over 100 teams were involved in the Championships from Europe, Oceania, and Africa. Mr Donohoe then visited France, Ukraine and Russia to learn more about the history and culture of these countries.



Students of the Week

June/July 2011

**Yass High School
Student of the Week
July 2011**



**Jarrod Alcorn
Year 11**

For volunteering to shear
the School Farm sheep

**Yass High School
Student of the Week
June 2011**



**Sarah Davison
Year 8**

A Welcoming Ambassador
at Sister Speak

**Yass High School
Student of the Week
June 2011**



**Nathan Furry
Year 12**

For organisation of the
David Jenson
Photography Competition

**Yass High School
Student of the Week
June 2011**



**Bradley Crawford
Year 9**

Showed leadership and
responsibility by instigating a
visit by Terry Campese

**Yass High School
Student of the Week
June 2011**



**Tara-Lee Freeman
Year 10**

A Welcoming Ambassador
at Sister Speak

Yass High School Students of the Week July 2011



**Kineta French, Brittany Lloyd,
Christopher Loney, Kahlie Bush,
Naomi Menzies & Nathan Furry**

For organising photos and stories for
the school newsletter

The Walkathon is coming! Support your Brekky Club!

The inclusiveness which the Breakfast Club promotes stretches far beyond the black and white statistics. The involvement of the whole school community is the real success of the Breakfast Club. Incorporating success for boys program and a student volunteer program; it encourages partnerships in the broader community through sponsorship; it gives ownership to each and every school community member through participation in the Brekky Club Walkathon.

It really is a program which is not about 'need', but rather all about 'support'. It is a club which is for every student. It is important. It is special. It is YOURS. Now is the time to join together to ensure its continued operation. To support the program that supports you.

The annual school Brekky Club WALKATHON is coming.....**SOON.**

On 10th August we will all participate in the annual Brekky Club WALKATHON. This is your chance to contribute to a program which supports YOU and so many others.

Sponsorship is simple; ask family, friends, neighbours and anyone you can think of to sponsor YOU in the WALKATHON which is to raise funds solely for YOUR BREAKFAST CLUB.

All students have been issued with an official sponsorship card. All sponsorship cards, along with any money raised prior to the event must be handed in to the school on the morning of the Walkathon. Pledges will be calculated and students will have their 'confirmed' sponsorship forms returned immediately after the event so that any outstanding monies can be collected. All sponsorship monies must be handed in to the school within one week of the event.

Remember: Everyday, everybody – it's a good day with a good start!

And don't forget – any student who raises in excess of \$200 in sponsorship goes into the draw to win a prize..... there's a 40" Flat Screen Colour TV up for grabs!



GRAND FINAL:

THURSDAY NIGHT, 7PM, 4TH AUGUST, 2011

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 FOR ART VIEWING AND VOTING

**OVER \$1000 IN
PRIZEMONEY**



YASS HIGH'S

GOT

TALENT QUEST

IT'S BIG,
IT'S HUGE,
IT'S AMAZING!
CELEBRATING
EDUCATION!

TICKETS ON SALE 1ST, 2ND, 3RD
AUGUST, 2011.

SINGLE: \$3.00

FAMILY: \$7.00

(2 ADULTS/2 CHILDREN)

- TICKETS MUST BE PRE PURCHASED
- TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

DON'T FORGET THE
ARCHI-PRIZE

PAINT, DRAW, TAKE
PHOTOS, PRINT,
SKETCH, FIBRE DE-
SIGN, DESIGN, COL-
LAGE, SCULPT,.....?

SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY
NOW TO THE ART
DEPARTMENT

**OVER \$1000 IN
PRIZEMONEY**

Canberra Raiders Stars Visit Yass High to Conduct Football Coaching Clinic

On Tuesday 15th June Terry Campese and Joel Thompson, first grade players with the Canberra Raiders Rugby League Team visited Yass High and conducted a coaching clinic for 20 year 7 to Year 9 students down at Victoria Park.

The driving force behind the organisation was Bradley Crawford who is the cousin of Terry Campese. The majority of the students are indigenous and we will be arranging matches against other schools later in the year. Bradley showed great management and organisational skills by selecting the team and organising the day's events. The school aims to continue the development leadership skills amongst indigenous students.

Both Terry and Joel were impressed with the manners and behaviour of our students. They showed the students some skills and drills and conducted a simulated game with them at the end of the session.

The players would like to thank Mr Duncan for his coaching assistance and helping Bradley run the day.

Warwick Sicklen
Coach



Joel Thompson organises one of the drills while Jacob Davison and Jake Winnell look on.



Terry Campese with his cousin Bradley Crawford who organised the day.

Foster carer information session

Fostering isn't always easy, but if you have what it takes to make a difference to a child's life come along to a NSW Community Services information session.

To learn more

- ▶ **Goulburn Community Services Centre**
108 Auburn St, Goulburn
Thurs 25 Aug 2011
1.30pm
- ▶ **Yass Soldiers Club**
Tues 30 Aug 2011
10.30am
- ▶ **Goulburn Workers Club**
Thurs 27 Oct 2011
6pm

- ▶ **Young Neighbourhood Centre**
Tues 20 Sept 2011
11am

For further
information or to
RSVP please contact
Carolyn Doherty on
48285531.



Family &
Community Services
Community Services

www.fosteringnsw.com.au

Coming Events

DATE	EVENT
Mon 1 st Aug	P&C meeting 7.30pm in staff common room
Tues 2 nd Aug	English Competition
Weds 3 rd Aug	Canberra Career Markets
Thurs 4 th Aug	Talent Quest Final (evening)
Thurs 4 th Aug	Maths Competition
Fri 5 th Aug	Year 10 into 11 Student Information Day
Tues 9 th Aug	School Photo Day
Tues 9 th Aug	Year 10 into 11 Parent Information Evening
Weds 10 th Aug	Walkathon for Brekky Club
Fri 12 th Aug	Craft and Quilt Fair Year 11/12 Excursion
Mon 15 th Aug	Physics Olympiad
15 th - 23 rd Aug	HSC Trials
Fri 19 th Aug	Leading Ladies Program
Mon 29 th Aug	Years 7 & 8 Colour Group Rotation 3 starts today
Wed 31 st Aug	HSC Music Night
Thurs 1 st Sept	Year 8 into 9 Parent Information Evening
Mon 5 th Sept	Religious Seminars
Mon 5 th Sept	P&C meeting 7.30pm in staff common room
Mon 5 th Sept	Visual Art HSC Body of Work
Wed 7 th Sept	Indigenous Literacy Day
15 th –22 nd Sept	Preliminary Final Examinations
Fri 23 rd Sept	Year 12 Final Assembly
Click on the school website for the online calendar	
Remember Assessment tasks are also available on school website calendars	

