RESPECT  TOLERANCE  PERSONAL BEST  COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

RELIEVING PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE - MR CHRIS KANE - 67661677

We are a vibrant, busy school. In recent weeks students (with the support of staff and parents) have been involved in a wide range of experiences.

Our new student leaders Phillipa Fisher and Luke Fox (Captains), Rachel Turner and Samuel Davidson (Vice Captains) have taken up their roles with energy and confidence.

Year 8 students have just returned from the Gold Coast. This excursion focused on team building and resilience. Year 9 PASS have been roughing it in the Warrumbungles and Junior Drama students participated in a Circus Skills Workshop. The Open Boys Cricket side played Quirindi and the Under 15 Boys Basketball side travelled to Sydney. Our agriculture students have just returned from Scone where they achieved outstanding results in the Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza (full report next issue).

Oxley Vale Public School hosted a fantastic morning tea to acknowledge the work of our students in creating the mural that now welcomes visitors to the school.

The SRC have participated at the Regional Conference and the formal Induction Ceremony is on Wednesday 30 November. We have just received advice that Alexander McKenzie has been selected to represent students on the SRC State Council for 2012!

One of the keys to success at school is to grab the opportunities that come your way.

Congratulations to all the students and staff who are so clearly having a go.

4 NOVEMBER 2011  VOLUME 15  ISSUE 9

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND SPORTS STUDIES (PASS)

EXCURSION AT THE WARRUMBUNGLES

As part of the Year 9 PASS course 17 students, Ms Michell and Mr Bryan went to the Warrumbungles National Park for a three day hike. Day 1 was a very difficult uphill section walking up to Balor Hut, which is nestled in under the Bread Knife. It was a very testing night for the students who dealt with 60km/h winds, which flattened two tents.

Day 2 was a very long 18km day of varying terrain and weather conditions. The highlight of the day was, without a doubt, reaching the top of Exmouth, which is the highest accessible point in the park. The afternoon was very amusing, a long 6km walk downhill. Lots of spills and even a breakdown from Rachael James. However, the funniest moment of the trip was Cody Hazell tripping over a tent and Nicholas Caley walking into an old fire pit.

Day 3 was a short walk to Split Rock without our backpacks. All students deserve to be congratulated for their efforts. A big thank you needs to go to Ms Michell. Mr Bryan

QUEST MAGAZINES

QUEST Magazines are available for order at the Front Office. Cost is $16. Make sure your copy of the QUEST is ordered to avoid missing out.

YEAR 8 GOLD COAST EXCURSION REPORT

Our story starts with an early, very early start to the day. As we all waved our parents goodbye, the long journey began. Monday, there was excitement in the air with giggling, talking and singing (us). We did have some stops along the way, the first one was a toilet break (oh how we needed that). We finally reached Bornhoffen with everyone getting off the bus moaning with cramps.

Tuesday morning SLEEP IN! We broke into six groups, all doing different team building activities. As for our team, we hit the pool and got Creeking! Pretty sure we can all agree that Creeking was amazing, also loving the fact that our instructor (Sven from Germany) looked like Ryan Gosling! Team building was next. After dinner we all snuggled in and watched a movie.

Wednesday, we arrived at Currumbin Bird Sanctuary and separated into two groups, Bus 1 and Bus 2. We roamed around looking at all the animals and some of us caught the cute little train around the sanctuary. We also had an educational time learning about different animals that you can find in Australia.

After that we were off to Wet ‘n’ Wild! Every one couldn’t wait to get wet. We had so much fun and excitement but a lot of people got chaffing and blisters on their feet but that
didn't hold us back - we were kids on a mission to get a go on all the rides. Oh yeah, we forgot to mention that we all heard Mr McInnes, Mr Harper, Mr Rae and Mr Yeo screaming in high pitched voices like little girls on The Tornado.

The next day was a Surf Lifesaving course, so we started our Thursday morning well by rocking up to the wrong beach. After that, we learnt how to carry people in with tubes if they’re drowning and really helpful things like that. Then we did our “Bay Watch” runs along the beach, body-boarded and got dunked by waves... heaps! Of course we all got sand in places sand should never be!

We then hit WB Movieworld, as for us and some other friends we ran through the gates and onto The Superman Escape, we think we did that ride about four times, but who’s counting? Pretty sure we all worked up the energy and excitement to go on every ride and were bouncing off the walls. Quite a few of us girls and guys had sore throats from all the screaming. By the end of the week, we got really tired and were ready to go home. The bus trip was a good way to catch up on the sleep that we had missed all week.

All in all we had a fantastic week away and would happily do it again. We would like to thank the teachers for taking us and giving us a week away from school. We think we can say this on behalf of our year that we couldn’t wait to sleep in our own beds!

-Bronte Sommersville and Indiana Steel

MARY POPPINS YEAR 11 EXCURSION

On Friday 28 October the Year 11 Drama class met at the Tamworth Railway Station. After a traditional wait for Margot Jones and teaching Maddison Bowden’s little brothers that trains go “toot toot,” they boarded the XPLORER Service at 10:48am and headed for Sydney’s Central Station. After the trip, supervised by Alex Smith’s very cool dad, Mr Jamie Smith, they met Mr McInnes at Central Station. Although still very enthused for the viewing of Mary Poppins, Mr McInnes was glad to be back in the company of his favourite class - after a strenuous week keeping Year 8 in order at the Gold Coast.

After balancing their numerous bags to the Railway Square YHA, they discovered they were staying in some “funky railway carriages” on the former Platform Zero. The girls then proceeded to glitz themselves up, and Michael snapped on his sharp, royal blue suspenders. They were people of the town. Mr McInnes let his students choose where they would like to eat, on one condition, that it was a restaurant that wasn’t located in Tamworth. Being a very cultured class (and much to Mr McInnes’ surprise), they chose to eat in a Japanese Sushi Restaurant. This did, however, prove a bit of a struggle for cla... and Michael.”

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-Bronte Sommersville and Indiana Steel

CHARITY DINNER AND AUCTION

When: Saturday 5 November
Where: Wests League Club
Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm start
All proceeds to aid the Alison Watt Memorial Appeal
Tickets $35 - 6762 6177
Guest Speaker: Tamworth’s Anthony Painter,
Supported by: Wests Entertainment Group,
The Peel Masonic Lodge and masoniCare.

YEAR 12 GEOGRAPHY - WHEAT FARM STUDY

As part of the study of People and Economic Activity, the Year 12 Geography class visited a local farm, Carlyle, which is a wheat farm owned by the Fisher family, near Werris Creek. The farm study included an analysis of the reasons for location, internal and external linkages, effects of global changes, ecological dimension and the future directions of wheat farming. The students were appreciative of the opportunity to visit the farm to help prepare for the HSC. Many thanks to Guy and Belinda Fisher for hosting the Year 12 Geography students again this year. All students were impressed and excited to actually see big farm machinery and to inspect a wheat crop.

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<th>MONDAY 7 NOVEMBER</th>
<th>TUESDAY 8 NOVEMBER</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 9 NOVEMBER</th>
<th>THURSDAY 10 NOVEMBER</th>
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<td>Yearly Science Exam P1 - Y8; P2 -Y9; P5 -Y7</td>
<td>Y12 Farewell TREC</td>
<td>Health Schools Surveys (Mop-up) - J Boulton - Library</td>
<td>Assembly: PDHPE/Science Halegen Young Leaders Day - Darling Harbour - J Boulton</td>
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