

# Term 1

## Week 8 2016

Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Easter Hat Parade
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Good Friday
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Monday
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> April	PSSA Swimming
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	PSSA Swimming
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Cricket Gala Day Stg 3
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Last Day Term 1

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The first term of the year has been a busy one so far. Our students have had the opportunity to participate in many exciting activities. Many more exciting activities are being planned for the terms ahead.

### Parliament Induction

The official opening of our school parliament will be held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March in our school hall. We look forward to welcoming our Federal Member for Hume Mr Angus Taylor, Wollondilly State member Mr Jai Rowell and Wollondilly Deputy Mayor Mr Hilton Gibbs for their participation in the induction ceremony. A huge thankyou also to Mr Booth for coordinating this significant event.

### Members of Tahmoor Public School Parliament Front Bench, 2016

Prime Ministers:	Tom Sargood Ashlyn Griffiths
Deputy Prime Ministers:	Deklan De La Mare Rebecca Mills
Speakers:	Chayce Smith Mackye Reedie
Environment Ministers:	Skye Callaghan Rielly Smith
Sports Ministers:	Sophie Tapp Bella-Rose Walker
Technology Ministers:	Melana Munro Jye Johnson
Health & Safety Ministers:	Blake Alderson Nin Nin Phanloet
Student Welfare & Communication Ministers:	Maddison Woods Ivy Haselhuhn

Congratulations to all of the students who will be inducted into the Tahmoor Public School Parliament on this special occasion. Each of these students will be undertaking important leadership roles at our school throughout 2016.

### National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

If your child is currently in Year 3, 5, 7 or 9, they'll sit NAPLAN tests this May. And despite what you may have heard, there's no reason to panic or start an intensive study schedule for your child. Simply have your child read aloud each night, practise their tables and complete their normal homework.

NAPLAN will occur on May 10 – 12.

Find out more:

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/all-about-naplan>

### School A to Z app

Do you struggle to understand your child's homework? Does your child need to practise their spelling and times tables? Are you looking for inspiration for projects and assignments? This free homework helper app provides maths and English glossaries, assignment starters and more.

Find out more:

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/about/mobile-applications/school-a-to-z>

### Wild Australia app – a great way to improve your child's general knowledge!

Your child can use this terrific app as an interactive educational tool at Taronga Zoo in Sydney or at Taronga Western Plains Zoo, Dubbo. Wild Australia can also be used at home to discover more about the zoos' amazing animals and interesting keepers.

Find out more:

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/zh/homework-and-study/educational-games/taronga-zoo-wild-australia>

### Teacher Professional Learning

Staff at Tahmoor Public School have continued to work hard. During the last two weeks we have completed the following:

- We have had a big focus on technology and the staff have discussed the process involved with the implementation of BYOD (Bring your own device). This has included the formulation of a new policy which includes BYOD.
- Collaborating at Tahmoor (CAT) – We are examining the Numeracy block. We will embark on action research surrounding Teaching time, content and assessment.

Have a great fortnight  
David Schofield  
Principal

## **Stage 3 Update**

Stage 3 have had a very positive start to 2016. Students are highly engaged in literacy and numeracy activities as well as hands-on Science and Visual and Creative Arts.

We encourage all students to donate an Easter egg/eggs for the Easter raffle. The school community are busy selling raffle tickets and all proceeds go towards the Year 6 Farewell. Donations need to be in by TUESDAY 22 March.

Many Stage 3 students have been trialling for a range of Razorback sporting teams and their skills and sportsmanship have been very impressive. Stage 3 Teachers

## **Thirlmere Steam Festival**

Thank you to all those students who proudly marched with our school at the Thirlmere Steam Festival in the parade. Despite the very hot day, lots of students attended with big smiles on their faces. Many members of the community commented on the impeccable behaviour and positive attitudes of our students. Well done!

Miss McConnell



## **Razorback Boys Rugby League Trials**

Congratulations to the ten boys selected to go and trial for Razorback Rugby League. The boys were selected by both Miss McConnell and a representative from the NRL and it was a very difficult decision with plenty of talented players to choose from.

A huge congratulations to Bodee and Harry who were selected for the team. Well done!

Miss McConnell

## **Drama**

Drama started on Wednesday 9 March. We are having a wonderful time with plenty of laughs. The students are working on building their confidence and voice projection at the moment and will be moving into improvisations in the coming weeks.

Miss McConnell

## **Girls League Tag Gala Day**

Three teams went away to represent TPS at the inaugural NRL Girls League Tag Gala Day in Bowral. The enthusiasm and effort of these girls was fantastic. They played extremely well. Each team had a mix of Stage 2 and Stage 3 students and this mix allowed us speed, agility and accuracy when defending. The girls placed first, second and third on the day! Congratulations girls – I am very proud of you.

Miss McConnell



## **State Knockout Cricket Report**

We were greeted with scorching temperatures on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March at Elderslie for our state knockout cricket game against Harrington Park P.S.

Our boys did a tremendous job playing against a school more than twice our size. We did not have one boy in our team who played weekend cricket, but because of a real commitment shown at all training sessions, we were very competitive.

Harrington Park batted first and scored 97 off their allotted overs. Batting in the heat of the day, Tahmoor were able to manage 69 in reply to the competitive total set.

There were some very anxious moments for the Harrington Park crowd as several partnerships started to build but unfortunately, their total was a little too far away.

A big thanks to parents who transported and supported the boys throughout the day and to our Tahmoor boys who conducted themselves immaculately throughout the game. Some stats: R Smith 1-11, L Cager 1-8, C Piper 1-7, M Reddie 2-16, C Kernan 21, T Sargood 8, J McPherson 10.

Special mention to Carl Piper for tight bowling and Chayce Smith for outstanding wicketkeeping.

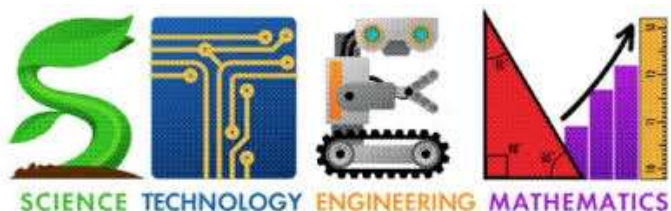
Ian Booth



## **ICAS CLOSE OFF DATE REMINDER**

ICAS notes went out in late February to students in Year 2 to Year 6. A reminder that notes need to be back by **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March** to enable us to order test papers by ICAS cut off dates.

Ian Booth



### **Science Pantry Thank You!**

This is the first chance I've had to write an item for the newsletter and I really wanted to begin with a very big Thank You. Parent support of the Science Pantry and Bits Box initiatives has been overwhelming and demonstrates an unprecedented level of support for science and technology at the

school. The new science store room is full and I know that individual class stores are also very healthy. This means more science and technology in classes :) This term science units are being taught in Kindergarten as well as Year 5 and Year 6. Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 will teach science and technology in term 2. We are currently waiting for our Woolworths 'Earn and Learn' equipment to arrive, which includes 12 programmable Bee Bot robots that will be used across all classes from Kinder to Year 6.

### **National Innovation and Science Agenda**

STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. You might have seen ads on TV presented by Dr Karl Kruszelnicki about the "Innovation Boom". In July the Federal Government will publically announce its National Innovation and Science Agenda (NISA), which has important implications for future job opportunities as well as for early childhood and primary learning in the fields of STEM. I am currently working to attract funding and develop more opportunities for students at Tahmoor Public School to be involved in STEM activities. This includes updating the Science Program, which has been developed over the past 2 years, to include more Technology Design, Engineering and Mathematics, as well as extracurricular activities such as STEM Club, STEM Expo and STEM Hub.

### **STEM in classrooms**

This term I've been working with 4/5C & Miss Collier on a STEM class each week, aimed at learning about the Technology Design process. Students have been exploring the effects of design modifications made to paper straw rockets, and how these affect the performance of their models. Students made a clinometer, which is a tool they used to measure launch-angle. Students then measured the distance travelled by their original rocket design, and compared this with their modified designs.

### **STEM Clubs**

The infants and primary STEM clubs have been highly successful, with over 50 students enrolled in each. STEM club is held on Monday at lunch time (infants) and Thursday lunch time (primary), in the hall. Because time is short, students are engaged in a brief STEM-based activity that is designed to help them think about how STEM can be used to solve problems. Many students in the STEM clubs have already started working on their STEM Fair projects, which they will present in poster format at the

Wollondilly Primary STEM Expo, which will be hosted by Tahmoor Public School at the end of Term 2.

### Parent STEM Coffee Club

The first parent STEM club is scheduled for Thursday 31st March from 9:15 until 10:30. The aim of the Parent STEM Club is to demonstrate how Science and Technology is being taught in classes, and to help parents engage in STEM discussions and activities at home with their children. The first Coffee Club session will focus on supporting students at the STEM Expo and will include a demonstration of the Technology Design process through the construction of a finger skateboard, as well as how to construct and present a Science Fair poster.

### STEM Hub

Over the past 12 months I have developed a professional learning network especially for primary teachers, that supports their learning and teaching in STEM. The Primary STEM Network provides teachers with an opportunity once each term to come together and share success stories, as well as participate in a professional book club and a hands-on STEM-based activity. At the moment there are teachers involved from 6 schools in the Wollondilly and Glenfield networks. This year we will be partnering with the Macarthur Science Hub, which is located at the Mt Annan Botanic Garden. I am hoping to increase the number of participants in the STEM Hub by including opportunities for parents and students to become involved in citizen science. Through the STEM Hub, teachers, parents and students will be able to interact with scientists from Western Sydney University and the University of Wollongong. The STEM Hub provides important opportunities for teachers, parents and students to be involved in a learning community.

Stay tuned for further developments in this fast growing area of education and community.

Dr Marc Noakes  
STEM Leader

## STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Every week we will be drawing a student of the week using the Tahmoor Tickets. We hope this will help to promote our school rules, as the student selected will get to pick appropriate music to be played as the bell.

Congratulations Montana (Week 7) and Ava (Week 8)







Tahmoor Public School P&C Association has elected a new committee for 2016. Congratulations to the following office bearers;

Shane MORRISBY – President  
Shani GOODE – Vice President  
Theresa MILLS – Vice President  
Carrie KABLE – Treasurer  
Tracey BALLANGO – Secretary



Several sub committees were also formed for Canteen, Uniforms and Fundraising with an enthusiastic response from members.

The P&C would like to say a big TAHANK YOU to Scott Warren Electrical for assisting us with some questions we had in relation to our new canteen oven. Scott donated his time to the school and its very much appreciated.

Don't forget to get your sausage sizzle order forms in to the canteen by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2016 for the Easter Hat Parade on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> march.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April.

## PCYC Southern Highlands

# School Holiday Activities

Oz Tag & Dodge Ball (5-12yrs) Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April  
Gymnastics & Netball (5-12yrs) Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April  
Tennis & Soccer (5-12yrs) Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April  
Archery (8-16yrs) Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April  
Gymnastics (5-12yrs) Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April  
Tennis & Netball (5-12yrs) Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April  
Oz Tag & Dodge Ball (5-12yrs) Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April  
Soccer & Archery (5-12yrs) Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April

Each day we finish with popcorn and a movie on our indoor big screen.  
Lunch is included.

### Price per day:

\$35 for non-members (includes PCYC membership)

\$25 for current members

**Book for 4 or more days only pay**

\$100 for non-members (includes PCYC membership)

\$90 for current members.

\$5 discount for two or more in the same family.

### Bookings are essential.

Payment must be made before day of the activity.  
6 Hawkins Drive, Mittagong, 2575



Phone: (02) 4868 5200



**BUILDING NO WAY!**  
SAFE AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS  
TAKE A STAND TOGETHER.

**Our school community  
is proud to take a  
stand against bullying  
and violence.**

**Friday 18 March 2016**  
[www.bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au)

**National Day  
of Action against  
Bullying and Violence**