Informaction

Chatham High School

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Davis Street Taree NSW 2430 T 6552 2588



E chatham-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au W www.chatham-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Issue 4 – Term 4 – Week 9



Congratulations to all the students, teachers, parents and community members who have participated in the many and varied opportunities on offer at Chatham High School this term. I was particularly pleased to see the number of primary school visitors and parents involved in the Community Sports Gala Day. Congratulations to Mr Craig Mitchell, Uncle Matt, the Aboriginal Education Team and

the very large number of students who helped make our student and parent visitors feel at home on the day. A special thanks to the NRL players who travelled to Chatham to help out and get involved with the students. A very special mention to Ash Gordon who helped arrange for Tyrone Roberts (Knights), Will Smith (Knights) and Isaac Gordon (Sharks) to attend. Thanks and well done to everyone!

By now, many of you will have seen the newest addition to Chatham High School - the Griffin at the front of the school, a gift from the departing Year 12. Very special thanks go to the community members and ex-students who also supported the project by donating time and their services. In particular, thanks to Nigel Ferguson from Edstein Creative Stone for his enormous generosity and Les Page from Coastal Crane Services who donated his time and equipment to lift the 1,600 kilogram Griffin and its pedestal into place.

My last congratulations are the most important ones. These go to all teachers and parents who have taught and supported our students to achieve their best this year. Our Annual School Report will show some remarkable growth in literacy and numeracy by our students, compared to other schools in the area, the region and the state. Congratulations to our students for their learning; in the classroom, in the homework centre, with teachers, adult tutors, peer tutors and at home. Well done!

Finally, I have been very impressed this year with the hard work dedication and commitment to the school shown by the school's P&C. At our recent meeting I asked Sharon Steadman, President of the P&C to write some points for Informaction about their work. Here is what she wrote:

"Four years ago the P&C nearly folded due to lack of support. A small and dedicated group of parents saved the P&C by donating their time, once a month, to attend meetings and show their support of Chatham High School.

The number of people attending our meetings has gradually decreased over the last few years, due to students graduating, families moving, etc.

We need to throw our support behind this valuable part of our school. If you can come along to a meeting, once a month, we would love to see you there.

The meetings are held on the third Monday of each month, starting at 7pm, in the admin/office area. The next meeting is Monday, February 18, 2013. Our Annual General Meeting is Monday, March 18, 2013.

The P&C has had a dedicated lady as our canteen treasurer for a number of years and it is her turn to move on. If there is anyone with a bookkeeping/accounting background who would be willing to volunteer their time and expertise as our new canteen treasurer please contact the school with your details and we will be in touch.

The P&C runs the school canteen, so without the P&C there will in effect be no canteen! A school without a canteen is like a bike with no wheels!

On the subject of the canteen, Lorraine our Canteen Manager is desperate for some helpers in the canteen. It can be Mum, Dad, Grandma, Grandpa, Aunt, Uncle etc. If you have a day or half a day per week, fortnight or monthly your help would be gratefully appreciated. Lorraine can be contacted on the school number 6552 2588 or simply drop into the canteen.

Thank you, Sharon! Your work and that of the canteen and the P&C is greatly appreciated.

See you at the presentation assemblies. I look forward to recognising the outstanding achievements of our students.

Seasons greetings and a safe holiday to all.

Willem Holvast Principal.



Calendar

Week 9

Mon 3-Wed 5 Dec	Yr7 Camp
Mon, 3 Dec	Yr7 2013 Parent Info Evening, 6pm
Wed, 5 Dec	Yr7 2013 Orientation Day

Week 10

ALL WEEK	Yrs7 & 8 Intensive Swimming classes
Wed, 12 Dec	AECG meeting

Week 11

Mon, 17 Dec	P&C Meeting, 7pm
Wed, 19 Dec	HSC Results available to schools
Wed, 19 Dec	LAST DAY OF TERM FOR STUDENTS

WE'RE NOW ON FACEBOOK.

CHECK US OUT



HTTP://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CHATHAMHIGHTAREE

IF YOU DO NOT WISH YOUR CHILD TO BE PUBLISHED ON FACEBOOK OR THE WEBSITE, PLEASE CONTACT JENN CURTIS, CLO

BY TEL: 6552 2588 OR EMAIL: JENNY.CURTIS1@DET.NSW.EDU.AU

If we have already received notification that your child is not to be published please disregard, however, please feel free to contact Jenn Curtis if you would like to check or confirm details.

Please do not hesitate to contact Jenn Curtis if you have any queries regarding publishing your child, the CHS website or our new Facebook.

Chatham High @ Taree Show 2012

Equestrian Report

On Friday 12 October, Caine and Kayla Standing represented Chatham High School at the Equestrian Pony Club Day of the 2012 Taree Show, sponsored by Manning Valley Saddlery.

Many people commented on how good they looked in the Chatham High School uniform with their horses sporting Chatham High saddlecloths and brow bands.

The weather conditions were not favourable for the day with blistery cold winds and a little rain. Kayla received 3^{rd} in her Hack Class. Caine received a 5^{th} in his hack class, 1^{st} in his riding class and a 4^{th} in a sporting event.





Agricultural Report

In addition to the students in the equestrian section, Tiohnee Ford, Scott Shelton, Daniel Jacobs, Samantha Hamilton, Jessica Worth, Erica Tisdell and Aaron Billingsley represented the school in the beef cattle section. They were involved in competition both Friday and Saturday winning a number ribbons with steers bred by Mr Peter Longworth. Considerable time and effort was invested in preparing the animals, breaking them in to lead, clipping and conditioning them for parades and competition. The students were supported and assisted by Mr Brad Christianson while Mr Garry Flemming added his expertise in the produce section to assist in winning 5 prizes in the produce section.





Daniel Jacobs



Samantha Hamilton



Jessica Worth and Tiohnee Ford



Scott Shelton





Aaron Billingsley







Thirty five local high school students then took part in a special produce judging scenario to select students from the zone who would be eligible to compete at the Royal Easter Show. Having absorbed many skills in their Agriculture elective, our students then demonstrated their competency and won first, second and third in the qualifying competition. The three successful students were Tiohnee Ford, Samantha Hamilton and Jessica Worth.



Tiohnee Ford, Samantha Hamilton & Jessica Worth



Design and Technology Agriculture has again been a huge success with Year 8 classes. There is great interest in fresh vegetable production, sheep and cattle studies but the hit this year has definitely been the hatching of eggs in our own incubator and the raising of the chickens.



The Griffin

The Griffin is a legendary animal with the body of a lion and the wings and head of an eagle. It is said to have dwelt in the Rhipsean Mountains between two peoples, the Hyperboreans and the One-Eyed Arimaspiana.

Legend has it that these two peoples fought with the Griffins for the possession of the gold guarded by those Griffins in the mountains.



So what? You may be asking yourself. How did such a beast come to be connected with Chatham High School? Well, during the first and second world wars a group of soldiers



(gathered from the surrounding area) called the 33rd Battalion also carried the Griffin as a sign of courage.

In fact the colours of the 1/33rd and 2/33rd still hang today in St John's Church of England in Taree.

Our Motto

"SEMPER INTREPIDI" roughly translated from the Latin means "ever undaunted".

"It is to be hoped that we at Chatham can give those words real meaning in a spirit (though not necessarily manner) similar to those men of the 33rd Battalion that originally took the Griffin into battle" (quote from Kel Kelso, CHS first Principal).

Chatham High's Griffin – installed in front garden 5 October 2012

Our emblem is the Griffin. In fact many elite colleges, universities and schools around the world also use the Griffin as their emblem.

History

Chatham High School's first Principal, Kel Kelsey decided that the Griffin would make an excellent school emblem as it displayed the qualities that represent our school. Soldiers from the local area are reputed to have carried an emblem of a Griffin into battle during the First and Second World Wars as a symbol of courage and strength.

Ron Mellen, a retired art teacher drew the original Griffin design that was used in our school emblem. The Griffin is a mythical creature blessed with the speed, flight, and penetrating vision of the eagle and the strength, courage, and majesty of the lion.

In some traditions, only the female has wings. A Griffin's nest is reputed to be made of gold while its eggs resemble agates. There are also reports that Griffins came from a variety of places including Northern Russia, Ethiopia, India and Nepal.



Our new Griffin is unique

It was donated by Year 12 2012 with help from staff and huge backing from Edstein Creative Stone. In fact, Nigel Ferguson CEO of Edstein Creative Stone deserves huge thanks. Nigel and Edsteins have backed the project from the beginning and have been extremely generous in their support of our school. They have given us an amazing discount and have been involved in all aspects of the project.



The Griffin was carved in China from white granite by artist Jian Zhikun. It took him a full week to create our Griffin. The town where it was carved is called Chongwu Town and the factory is Hongxing Stone.





Crane operator, Les Page from Coastal Crane Services used his crane to lower the Griffin into place at no cost, and noted that the Griffin and its pedestal weighed 1600 kilos.



The dimensions of the actual Griffin are 800x800x700W. Overall, with the pedestal included, the Griffin stands at over 1.7 metres.



Neil Locker with the Griffin

Neil Locker.



Ben Hood and Sam Beatie after they caught a 40cm Flathead at Croki

They were fishing as part of sport on Tuesday. Also caught on that day were a smaller flathead by Damon Callaghan and a little bream by Lukis Tisdell. These had to be thrown back though.



Ben Hood and Sam Beattie

The Pig Created by Alex Ingham

To make the pig we got parts from old stuff in the school shed. Most of the parts came from a car. The body is a big spring, the legs motor valves, and I made the tail by twisting steel wire around a pipe. It's name is Taree Pig.

Alex Ingham Year 7 student



'The Taree Pig', an Alex Ingham creation



HSC courses begin ...

Information about Year 11 Term 4

Firstly, it was great to see the excellent efforts of many students throughout their Preliminary course over terms 1, 2 and 3. I thoroughly enjoyed reading their reports which were issued to them on Friday 19 October. There were some really glowing reports about student performances. They have begun their HSC studies this term, which of course will continue into next year. This time next year these students will be sitting for their HSC examinations.

Mr Locker and I really enjoyed interviewing every Year 11 student in the first week back. This highlighted a number of important things. For example, many students did have some career goal/s in their mind that they are working towards. However, many of them need both the schools and parents to support them. This may mean some extra time outside of class with a teacher following through on some aspect of work not quite understood or discussing with them at home how they are or are not managing their time.

Students have been issued with copies of a revised HSC assessment policy (there are some important changes), an assessment task schedule and calendar and a sheet to place their own assessment tasks on so they can see at a glance what's on when. These documents are also available for viewing on the school's website.

Many students have 'dropped' a subject and this means they are back to the bare 10 units required for the HSC. In some cases students have also changed courses within a subject, e.g, English Standard to English Studies. This means **students have more study time available** to them which should be a plus. IF it is used effectively it may help them to complete more work at school thus freeing time at home for other purposes. **Please ask your child about the work they are doing!**

Finally, if you have any questions about matters relating to Year 11 please contact me so we can talk about them.

Chris Abbott Deputy Principal Stage 6

Variety Night

On Monday 29 October, the Music Department had another Variety Night. This night was a huge success with a number of students from Years 7-11 performed.

The standard of performance was high and it was wonderful to see so many students performing who had never performed before. Of course we also welcomed back some students who perform regularly at school assemblies and variety nights. It is always such a great experience for these students. The night was a great representation of the talent at Chatham High School and we congratulate the students who had worked so hard to make the night such a success.

We would like to also recognise our audience, who was made up of parents and caregivers, grandparents, students and staff. Nights like these rely on the support of our school community and it was wonderful to see so many present.

A big thank you goes to Chris Diessel, Bradley Chapman, Steffanie Ross, Travis Goldsmith and Caine Standing for their setting up and assistance with the lighting and sound throughout the night.

We look forward to more Variety Nights in 2013.



Steffanie Ross



Edi Aitchison





Madi Moriarty



Taylah Piggott



Tyroam Moriarty



Keisha Moy



Hannah Connell









Emma Davies-Kinsella



Nina Tisdell and Meg Christensen

PBL at Chatham High School

What is PBL?

PBL stands for Positive Behaviour for Learning. This approach deals with teaching students the appropriate way to behaviour in various areas around our school and specifically outlining the expected behaviours in such areas. This approach deals with being proactive, that is making students aware of expected behaviours in particular areas and therefore teaching students specifically the ways to behave.

This process is quite detailed and involves the collaboration from all members of the school community to outline problem areas, and therefore address issues before problems occur. Our four main areas of focus are Learning, Respect, Responsibility and Safety.

The first target area for the PBL team was outlining the out-ofbounds areas and marking the walkaways, ensuring that students have easy transition through these areas. This strategy has been working really well and has received good feedback from both staff and students.

Recently, the PBL team have been addressing roll marking and conduct at assemblies. This involves students sitting in alphabetical order in their roll call groups and the expected behaviour in assemblies.

At our last meeting, The PBL team discussed achievement and the new merit system being introduced at our school. The PBL team involves staff members from different faculties around the school, we would also invite comments and feedback from parents and carers.

Intensive Swimming for Year 7 and 8.

Chatham High will run an intensive swimming program <u>Week 10</u> of this term. All students from year 7 and 8 will be involved for five consecutive days.

Living on the North Coast of NSW with our wonderful climate, rivers, lakes, oceans and swimming pools, our school has made this program a priority.

Chatham High School P&C has generously decided to sponsor this activity and it will be **FREE TO ALL STUDENTS.** Year 7 will attend the pool in the morning between 9am and 11am. Year 8 will attend from 11am till 1pm. The program will consist of lifesaving and survival techniques, stroke correction and learn to swim.

Craig Mitchell, Head Teacher PD/H/PE

Congratulations Cassandra Lees

Selected to perform at 'Bravissimo'

Chatham High School Year 12 music student Cassandra Lees has been selected to perform at the inaugural Mid-North region 'Bravissimo,' an HSC showcase concert to be held on 17 February, 2012 at the Glasshouse, Port Macquarie. This is a marvellous accolade not only for Cassandra but also for our our school.

'Bravissimo' aims to inspire younger musicians in music excellence.



The Kitchen Garden

Lovingly created and tended by the Support Unit

The kitchen garden is starting to take shape. The students have planted a variety of plants. The students are growing silverbeet, pak choy, celery, beetroot, shallots, butter beans, iceberg lettuce, mesculin lettuce (fresh salad mix), passionfruit, apple cucumbers, yellow button squash, capsicum and beef steak tomatoes.

The students have also built a small shade area for raising seedlings to replace plants as they are harvested.

The garden also includes a lemon tree and a mandarin tree.

The students have cooked their first dish, a chicken stir fry with oyster sauce using the pak choy.

Terry Kouwenhoven Support Unit Teacher



Talee Andrews and Georgina Lambert



Patrick Hunter



Mr Kouwenhoven with Corrie Carter



SU-2 class with Mr Kouwenhoven removing buds off the new lemon tree to support growth



Georgina and Patrick





SU-2 preparing a healthy lunch with Mr Terry Kouwenhoven and Mr Peter Wilson



Georgina Lambert



Rhiannon Gibson



Talee Andrews



The following photos were taken Week 4. The garden is definitely healthy and abundant; a reflection of the dedication and care given by Support Unit students and staff.













Chatham High NEW Sport shirts for sale. Cost is \$22

Only available at Chatham High



Nadeen Bayliss, Vice Captain 'sporting' the CHS new sport shirt

By now I am sure that everyone has seen or is wearing one of the new school sport shirts; personally I am wearing one and I have to say that they are great. Unlike the previous sports shirt they are easy to wear and comfortable, which is more beneficial when you are playing sport, plus the colours look really good and easy in the wash. I think that the new Chatham High sport shirt is very well designed and a great improvement to our school uniform.

Written by Nadeen Bayliss Vice-Captaiin of Chatham High School Vice-Captain of Awaba House



Peer Tutoring Year 11 and Year 7 students

Judi Wood, Chatham High School and Kate Fazio, TAFE have worked together this year to run a Peer Tutoring program with Year 11 and Year 7 students. The tutoring has been successful on many levels, with Year 11 students gaining skills in literacy coaching and Year 7 students receiving ongoing support and mentoring from their older school mates. We hope to train a new group of tutors early next year so that our program can continue to grow.

The Year 11 students will be presented with a TAFE Certificate at the end of the school year at a morning assembly.

Judi Wood Peer Tutoring Co-ordinator





RAAF Indigenous



Leading Aircraftman Matthew Parr from RAAF Base Williamtown Fire Section shows Jemma Ridgeway from Old Bar how they operate the "Jaws of Life".

Jemma Ridgeway student of Chatham High School was one of six young people from the Taree district to attend RAAF Indigenous. Eleven Indigenous students visited RAAF Base Williamtown during the period 24-28 September as part of the RAAF Indigenous Youth Program (RAAFIYP). The RAAFIYP has been developed as part of a partnering arrangement with Boorowa Aviation (BA) through the Illawarra Aboriginal Corporation (IAC) and the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR).



The objectives of the RAAFIYP are to provide an overview of aviation-related careers in the Air Force, encourage a focus on Air Force careers, provide insight into Air Force life, promote indigenous engagement, and contribute to the Air Force commitment to Closing the Gap.



L-R) Jemma Ridgeway, Madalanne Taylor, Tori Nikolaou, Air Force Indigenous Elder "Uncle Harry" Allie, Tim Spicer, Air Force Indigenous Cultural Advisor Wing Commander Lisa Jackson, Matthew Wilkes, Reba Skuthorpe, Worimi Indigenous Elder Uncle Neville Lilley, Josh Wood, Shayanne Ridgeway, Jesse Elliot, Alysia Tapping, and Kaine Green at the welcome ceremony at RAAF Base Williamtown.

Prac Student Visit

Mr Simeon James

This is our Prac teacher, Mr Simeon James working with Support Unit Vet Hospitality class and Mrs Kouwenhoven. We made a Croquenbouche and as you can see we either didn't have quite enough profiteroles or we started eating BEFORE the photo was taken! Mr James is AWESOME !!



Luka Lesson

Award Winning Luka Lesson, Hip Hop Slam Poet spent a week at CHS doing workshops with our students and partner school Year 6 students. Luka also performed for everyone on Thursday evening, 6 December.





The Merit System

A very important part in the development of a safe and positive environment for all the school community is the recognition of the efforts students make to help themselves and others during their time at Chatham High School.

To provide recognition for this effort, an across the school Merit System has been implemented. The system aims at recognising and acknowledging students who make a worthwhile contribution to their own education and the school community.

There are four Merit Awards: Bronze, Silver, Gold, Principal. Students achieve Awards by receiving merit certificates in a number of different categories.

No merits will be issued to students while they are on behaviour monitoring booklet

All students must be in full school uniform to accept merits and/or prizes on assembly.

The Merit Awards

Level	Criteria	Recognition
Bronze Award	You have accumulated 5 Merit certificates from any category	You will be given a Certificate You will receive special recognition at Formal Assembly Your name will appear in the newsletter Your parents will be informed
Silver Award	You have accumulated 10 Merit certificates in 2 different categories	 You will be awarded a Certificate You will be presented with an award You will receive special recognition at Formal Assembly Your parents will be informed You may be nominated for 'Student of the Term' You will be given a prize
Gold Award	You have accumulated 15 Merit certificates in 3 different categories and endorsement by committee	 You will be given a Certificate You will be presented with an award You will receive special recognition at Formal Assembly You will be nominated for 'Student of the Term' You will be given a prize
Principal's Award	You have accumulated 20 Merit certificates in 4 different categories and endorsement by committee	 You will be given a Certificate You will be presented with an award You will receive special recognition at Formal Assembly You will be nominated for 'Student of the Term' You will be offered a special excursion You will be presented with a folder and prize

VETO: Students will be nominated for Gold and Principal Awards by the Year Advisor to the committee. Based on discipline records provided by the DP, students' awards may be vetoed.

All award recipients will be presented at assembly unless on suspension.

Merit Criteria

Merit Awards may be gained in the following categories which are Chatham High CORE EXPECTATIONS. **Examples** are:

1. Valuing LEARNING

- a) Excellence in Assessment/Assignment work
- b) Consistent classroom effort
- c) Representing the School in Academic Competitions



2. Showing RESPECT

- a) Working on School Beautification
- b) Helping and respecting other students and staff
- c) Wearing complete school uniform neatly and consistently

3. Showing RESPONSIBILITY

- a) Representing the School in Sport
- b) Volunteering
- c) Setting an example as a role model

4. Practising SAFETY

- a) Following instructions
- b) Use information technology safely
- c) Co-operating with area expectations

Student of the Term

The Award 'Student of the Term' for each Year 7 to 12 will be presented at the assembly at the end of each term.

- A student from each Year will be selected from nominated students.
- Students with Silver, Gold or Principal Awards may be nominated.
- Staff will discuss nominees and vote during the staff meeting prior to the award assembly.
- Students on the Discipline Levels System, or reported to have exhibited inappropriate behaviour during the term, will not be eligible for nomination. This must be decided BEFORE the voting.
- Any student who has been suspended throughout the term is not eligible for student of the term.

Student of the Year

The Award of 'Student of the Year' will be presented at Presentation Night.

- ③ A student from each year will be selected from nominated students.
- © The award will come from the 4 students of the term.
- Staff will discuss nominees and vote during the staff meeting prior to Presentation Night.
- Students on the Discipline Level System, or reported to have exhibited inappropriate behaviour during the year, may not be eligible for nomination. This must be decided BEFORE the voting.
- Any student who has been suspended throughout the year is not eligible for student of the year.

Merits achieved after the term awards have been determined will accumulate towards the following term's awards (or next year if in Term 4).

Griffin Card Scheme

The Griffin Card is an incentive scheme in which students who satisfy the eligibility criteria set out below may apply for and are awarded a Griffin Card. The Card entitles them to certain in school privileges.

To be eligible for a Griffin Card you must have:

• A record of EXCELLENT BEHAVIOUR:

- in the classroom
- in the playground
- on buses
- on excursions
- in the community
- Not been on a Student Management Behaviour card in the last twelve months.
- A record of quality ATTITUDE and BEHAVIOUR that is shown by:
 - wearing of correct school uniform
 - completion of homework / assignments on time
 - being prepared for all lessons with equipment / books
 - being punctual to school and class
 - regular attendance at school
 - no record of the use of illegal substances (smoking, alcohol)
 - showing respect to teachers and peers and their belongings.
- A record of LOYALTY to the school shown by:
 - speaking well of the school
 - proudly wearing the school uniform
 - responsible use and return of sporting and classroom equipment
 - return of all funds and records from official school fund raising
 - regular attendance and participation at whole school and year activities eg, Sports and Athletics Carnivals.
- Received at least to at least Silver Level as part of the Merit Scheme and meet the above listed requirements.

If you have a Griffin Card then you may:

- attend special excursions organised only for Griffin Card holders
- be first choice audience at school extra curricular events
- have priority placing on excursions
- be first in line behind seniors in bus lines
- be able to borrow school equipment and resources.

GRIFFIN CARDS are awarded twice yearly at the end of each semester. You will be awarded a certificate with your Griffin Card. A photograph will be required to identify you on your card.



\$500 to Assist with Education Costs

Do you have a child at school and would \$500 help cover your education expenses?

The Smith Family is running a Taree savings program that can help you save for your children's education.

Saver Plus rewards your saving efforts by matching every dollar you save with another dollar from ANZ, up to \$500.

It also offers 4 FREE Financial Workshops.

Many Taree families are already taking advantage of the Saver Plus program and are saving for their educational expenses.

To be eligible you must:

- be a parent or guardian of a student attending school, or be intending to attend accredited vocational training yourself
- · have a current health care card or pension card, and
- have some income from work. (even a few hrs will count)

Saver Plus is giving families a brighter future by providing an incentive to save for education.

For more information contact Mark Norris, Saver Plus Coordinator on 65578284 or 0429 820 9744 or email mark.norris@thesmithfamily.com.au



We hope you have a safe and joyful Christmas and holiday.

