

Information

Chatham High School

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Issue 3 – Term 3, 2013

Semper Intrepidi

Forever Undaunted -

There is much to be proud of at Chatham High School. Our students continue to reach the highest levels of academic, sporting and cultural achievement and success.

Last week I was honoured to attend the 2013 Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement, along with Chris Diessel and his parents. The presentation took place in Bridge Street, Sydney.



This was a particularly proud moment for all of Chatham High School, as Chris was one of only 31 Year 12 students from around NSW who were presented with the highest award in Public education that recognises student achievement and success.

You may have read about this and seen some photos of the presentation on the school's facebook page. Take a look at our page if you have not yet caught up with this, and other stories and photos celebrating student learning and success at our school.

Best wishes for Year 12 in the HSC at the start of Term 4. This week we say farewell to our Year 12 students and wish them all the best with their examinations and future plans. I encourage students to use what is left of their study and preparation time wisely, set achievable goals for revision and remember to also set time aside for recreation and breaks. Good luck to all!

Congratulations to our elected school captains and vice captains for 2014. After a short but formal campaign, our new school captains are Daniel Jacobs and Tahlia Brett. Our vice captains are Jon Dahl and Tayla Davey. Well done to all of you, as well as the other candidates who nominated but were not successful at the vote. Student leadership at Chatham High School is the stronger for all your efforts!

There will be an official hand over of school captaincy at the final assembly for Year 12 on the second last day of this term. I invite all parents and family members of our Year 12 students to join with us for this occasion.

This, again, has been a busy and hard-working term for all staff and students at Chatham High School. I am particularly appreciative of the ongoing work and efforts of our wonderful School and Administrative and Support Staff here at Chatham High. They play an essential role in the operation of the school, supporting student learning and usually are the interface with the public. Although their work is very much appreciated we perhaps don't publicly acknowledge this work as often as we should. Last week was SAS Staff Recognition Week and it is a perfect time to make that public acknowledgement of the work they do. Well done and thank you to our permanent and long term casual staff:

- Mrs Roslyn Sheather (School Administrative Manager)
- Mrs Marlene Drury, Ms Lee Deer and Mrs Judy Gibson (Administration Office and Sick Bay)
- Ms Helen Monckton and Mrs Robyn Armstrong (Library, Rolls and Print room)
- Mr Matt Mitchell (Aboriginal Education Officer)
- Ms Jenny Webster (Science Assistant)
- Mrs Rhonda Allan and Ms Naomi Falkenberg (TAS Assistant)
- Ms Jenny Curtis (Community Liaison Officer)
- Mr Cleve Livermore, Mrs Jodie Melville, Ms Louise O'Neil, Mrs Nadine Saville, Mrs Coleen Latimore, Mr Peter Wilson, Mrs Jodie Bird, Mrs Robyn Brown, Ms Marilyn Connors, Ms Helen Cronk, Mrs Jan Evenden, Ms Sue LeStrange, Mrs Linda Standing, Mrs Rachael Carey, Mr Scott Boyle, Mr Jack Bailey (School Learning Support Officers)
- Ms Stephanie Maguire (Aboriginal Community Engagement Officer)
- Mrs Deb Henry and Mrs Glenda Boyle (Junior Norta Norta Tutors)
- Mr Ken Raison and Mr Andrew Snelgar (Senior Norta Norta Tutors)

- Mr Nathan Paff (Student Support Officer)
- Mrs Samantha Deas (Operational Paraprofessional)
- Mr Jason Towers (Technology Support Officer)
- Mr Garry Flemming, Mr Chris Renneberg and Mr Sean Jarvis (General Assistant)
- And last but not least, our latest addition, congratulations to our new Farm Assistant, Mr Brad Christensen.

In short, we couldn't do without all of you.

Have a safe vacation and see you all in Term 4.

Delayed Release of NAPLAN 2013 Students Reports to Parents

On Thursday 5 September ACARA identified an error in the placement of the national average markers on the Years 5 and 7 NAPLAN Student Reports for Language Conventions. Importantly the NAPLAN student data is correct.

ACARA made the immediate decision to halt any further packaging and distribution of NAPLAN reports while options regarding the distribution of correct NAPLAN Student Reports were considered.

ACARA is working closely with Test Administration Authorities (TAAs) in every state and territory to ensure correct reports are distributed.

This matter may result in the delay of the distribution of student reports, possibly to the week of 13 October, however ACARA and TAAs will seek to minimise the delay."

Calendar

Term 3

Week 10

Wed 18 Sept	Stage 4 Merit Assembly, p2 MPC
Wed 18 Sept	Stage 5 + Yr11 Merit Assembly, p4
Thu 19 Sept	Yr12 Formal Farewell Assembly
Fri 20 Sept	END OF TERM 3

Term 4

Week 1

Mon 7 Oct	Public Holiday
Tue 8 Oct	COMMENCE TERM 4
Fri 11 Oct	Yr10 Maths Authentic Assessment

Week 2

All week	SRC Chocolate Drive
Tue 15 Oct	Taree Local AECG Meeting – AGM at Taree Public School

Week 3

Mon 21 Oct	P&C Meeting, 7pm in Common Room
Fri 25 October	Defence Forces Talk

Week 4

Tue 29 Oct	Water Polo Knockout
Thu 31 Oct	Vaccinations Yrs 7 & 9 Boys, Yr7 Girls

Week 6

All week	ESSA Testing
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Week 7

Mon 18 Nov	P&C Meeting, 7pm in Common Room
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Week 10

All week	Yrs7&8 Intensive Swimming Classes
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Week 11

Mon 16 Dec	P&C Meeting, 7pm in Common Room
Tue 17 Dec	Presentation Evening
Wed 18 Dec	LAST DAY OF TERM FOR STUDENTS



Find us on
Facebook

If you would like to keep up-to-date with events at Chatham High School, please check us out at <http://www.facebook.com/chathamhightareeofficial>. This is the ONLY official page created by Chatham High School, Taree.

Unfortunately, we have no authority over any other Facebook page and therefore cannot access, edit or monitor content shown on these pages.



Girls' Choice Summer School

Newcastle University five day residential university experience for female Year 9 students

Congratulations to Year 9 students Cheyenne Abbott, Zoe Dargan and Kayla Standing for being chosen to attend the Girls' Choices Summer School through Newcastle University in December.

Girls' Choices aims to:

- Give students more confidence in their maths and science skills and their ability to achieve in these subjects.
- Identify a wide range of appealing study and career options that exist for HSC graduates.
- Reinforce the importance of further education.



Cheyenne Abbott, Zoe Dargan and Kayla Standing

Focus on Reading

Literacy teaching and learning

All staff members at Chatham High School have been introduced to an exciting, whole-school approach to literacy teaching and learning called *Focus on Learning*. Focus on Reading 3-6 is an intensive professional learning program for teachers to support the explicit teaching of the key aspects of reading in the middle years, namely comprehension, vocabulary and reading text fluency.

The program draws from a sound research base that justifies the need for these key aspects to be at the forefront of literacy teaching and learning in the middle years and to motivate learners in the middle years. Workshops are being led by Focus on Reading trainers Mrs Tracey Beckett, Head Teacher English and Ms Judi Wood, Literacy Support Teacher. In addition, fourteen teachers from all faculties will continue their training and certification in Focus on Reading under the guidance of Mrs Beckett and Ms Wood.

To date, teachers have looked closely at the Super 6 Comprehension Strategies and have begun to implement these strategies into all Year 7 classes. The strategies are Making Connections, Predicting, Questioning, Monitoring, Visualising and Summarising and apply to readers of all levels, from young children to adults.



Also, we have been using the DEC Literacy Continuum 7-10, which is a tool that can inform us of the expected learning at given points in time, to develop a Comprehension learning sequence and move students through the sequence. Comprehension involves responding to, interpreting, analysing and evaluating texts. 'Texts' include oral, aural, written, visual, electronic and multimodal texts.

Focus on Reading training is expected to continue into 2014 and is only one of the range of programs offered at Chatham High School to support all students to achieve their best in literacy and all subjects.

UNIFORMS NEEDED!

Please donate

If you have any uniforms you no longer need, we would really appreciate it if you would kindly donate them to our clothing pool.

Please also keep this in mind if you are finishing school soon or changing into the senior uniform. Thanks.



TAS Update

It's been another busy term for the TAS faculty and Stage 6 students.

Year 12 Industrial Technology and Textile students have been spending extra hours of their time to complete HSC Major projects. Year 11 have been going out on VET Work Placements and the Hospitality students have been cooking up a storm.

On Tuesday 23 July, Year 12 Exploring Early Childhood students, along with their teacher Mrs Eadndel, visited Chatham Primary School to observe students in Kindergarten classes. These Year 12 students were completing a task for their study unit on 'Starting School'. Our students also interviewed Ms Amanda Pitt, who teaches Kindergarten. This gave them a helpful insight into the educational and social issues that relate to young students in the early stages of their schooling. Many of these students are contemplating continuing their studies in educating children in early childhood. The morning visit was a fantastic opportunity to observe children in their schooling environment first hand.

On the 26 July, Year 11 and 12 Hospitality produced a wonderful array of food for the Taree Career Expo. Our students and Hospitality staff, Mrs Kouwenhoven, Mr James, Auntie Rhonda and Naomi worked for the whole day to provide high quality canapés for the exhibitors. Taree High School will be running the Hospitality facet for next year's Expo and using our kitchen facilities.

During Weeks 4-7 this term, Year 11 VET students ventured out to local businesses around Taree for Hospitality, Information Technology and Construction. This Work Placement scheme provides students with the necessary experience to work in the industry of their VET courses.

The Year 12 Textiles and Design students' Major Works were due for submission on Monday 12 August and were sent to Sydney to the Board of Studies for marking. This is worth 50% of their HSC marks. The students were required to find inspiration, then design and produce a piece of work based upon their inspiration. They also had to document all steps of their process in a folio which was also submitted. The Chatham High School students mainly chose to work in the areas of Costume and Apparel, although they were also able to choose from Furnishings, Textile Arts or Non Apparel. All students worked exceptionally hard to complete this task many staying back after school for a number of weeks. Mrs Roberts is very proud of these students and their efforts.

The TAS Faculty would also like to wish Miss Tolentino a fond farewell. Starting Term 4, Miss Tolentino will be heading back to Sydney for a Technology teaching position at East Hills Girls High School. The students and TAS faculty will miss her and her technology skills. We wish her luck at her new school.



Work by Abbey Miller (L) and Jessica Wans (R)



Work by Kodie Bryant





Maths Mate

This year, as part of the Chatham High School Numeracy program, all Year 7 and 8 students were given a Maths Mate worksheet on a regular basis. There are eight worksheets to be completed each term, generally one per week, the exceptions being short or disrupted weeks.

The Maths Mate worksheets have been designed to allow students to attempt all questions without the aid of a calculator, and this should be encouraged at home.

Don't be too concerned if your child finds the initial worksheet difficult. It is not expected that students will be able to complete every question from week one; in fact Q33 has been included to offer a real challenge to all students. Each worksheet is built around a common framework of questions aimed at covering the Australian Mathematics Curriculum.

While there is room on the worksheet for the recording of answers, this is only intended as a summary of the student's work. An asterisk '*' has been used to indicate those

questions where each student has been asked to show his or her working. In these cases the detail normally expected in Mathematics should be included, with all steps in the development of answers clearly shown. This working should be attached to the worksheet and submitted with it.

Corresponding questions on each worksheet cover the same skill area, that is, Q1 always tests adding whole numbers to 10, Q22, subtracting whole numbers to 10, and so on, with the questions within each category becoming progressively more difficult from week to week.

Students will be confronted by the same type of question on a regular basis. The diagnostic nature of the worksheets will help students and teachers to identify areas of strength and weakness. This should also help to motivate students to make another attempt at mastering skills that they may have found too difficult in the past. As well, the results sheet, if completed accurately, will allow students to enjoy monitoring their own improvement.

If your child is having difficulty with a certain skill, Skill Builders are available to students, teachers and parents from the Maths Mate website www.mathsmate.net. The Skill Builders also contain a Glossary of important facts and reference material that will provide students with instant help.

We thank you in anticipation of your involvement and remind you that you are encouraged to call and discuss your child's progress at any time.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

On Wednesday 7 August, some students from Years 8, 9, 10 and 12 took a bus trip to Sydney to see William Shakespeare's play, 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'.

The students departed Chatham High School at 6:00am. Travelling by bus they arrived at Haymarket at 11:30am. After the students went shopping they had lunch. Once everyone had lunch they then hopped on the bus and went to the Opera House to see 'A Midsummer Night's Dream.'

Many students enjoyed the play and referred to it as a 'funny play and a great experience.'

A student of the Year 8 'CHACE' Class, Jessica Ballangarry said, "It was a wonderful experience to see the play; I really liked the romantic side of it."

The students enjoyed a scene of the play, where characters Hermia and Helena fought because Helena thinks that they are mocking her behind her back.

Another scene that the audience enjoyed was when the tradesman, Flute, put on a play about Pyramus and Thisbe. This is where he dresses up as the woman Thisbe in the play within the play.

After the performance, the students gathered for a group photo. They also had the opportunity to take photos themselves to keep as memorabilia.

Afterwards the students walked back to the bus and went home with a dinner stop on the way at McDonald's in the twin service station in Jilliby.

Overall the group that went on the excursion had a great time and are very happy to be a part of such a wonderful experience and we would like to thank and congratulate the staff and the actors that took part in the magnificent play.

Written by: Makensie Doran, Tara Plant, Blake Trimboli, Sam Beattie and Nicole Beattie

CHACE Year 8 Cares

For the second year running, CHACE Year 8 have created the International Youth Day supplement for the Manning River Times. This year's focus was 'Who Cares'? Participating guests were from Manning Gardens Public School, Jye Bellworthy-Losh and Ebony Hutton.

The supplement, published 14 August, was professional and informative. It showcased the dedication and commitment the students had to stepping up to the challenge and deadlines of such an enormous project. They chose their topics, researched and wrote the articles, sold and designed the advertising and also took photographs to complement their works.

Special thanks to the Manning River Times for their ongoing and dedicated support, direction and the rich learning opportunities made available to our students. Thanks also to the businesses and community that supported the students.



Design Team: top, Earl Santos, Samuel Beattie, Izabella Stuart, Amanda Jones; bottom, Amy Trengrove, Tara Plant, Shannon Wagener. Not shown: Taitum Toshack, Brooke Anderson, Jye Belworthy-Losh





Journalism and Photography Team: top, Kyle Beattie, Toby DeStefano, Mitchell Chivas; bottom, Jasmine Lambert, Chloe Woodhouse, Bella Clements, Brittany Crane. Not shown: Loren Isaac, Makensie Doran, Tia Barlow.



Sales Team: top, Braidy Shelton, Nicole Beattie, Caitlin Denning, Daniel Sowter; bottom, Madi Moriarty, Jessica Ballangarry, Madelyn Rudd. Not shown: Jesse Stace, Natalie Price, Ebony Hutton

Teachers involved in the project: Tracey Beckett, Judi Wood, Jane Kirkby, Kylee Owen, Michelle Pellew, Jenn Curtis (CLO) and Melissa Barry from Manning Gardens Public School.

National Literacy and Numeracy Week

During National Literacy and Numeracy Week we went to different partner primary schools to read to the students. We read the book 'Herman and Rosie' by Gus Gordon. We also made a cityscape with them based on the book.

Jack Bailey, Tutor, performed a song for the kids, getting them to join in with sounds and clapping. Year 10 thoroughly enjoyed the experience, having the chance to interact with the kids. The students also really enjoyed the interaction, and it was a good way to build a strong bond with our local primary schools.

Written by Samuel Sheridan and Ashley Harry (Year 10)



Leah Campbell, Ashley Harry, Maddie McMaster, Mrs Kouwenhoven, Nina Tisdell, Elizabeth Lisle, Josh Stuart, Samuel Sheridan and Jack Bailey

Ag Update

Year 9 Agriculture students have been nurturing 24 hens' eggs over the last three weeks.

This is involved setting the eggs in an incubator set at 37.5°C which is the ideal temperature for developing chicks. Water was added to keep the humidity level up which prevents the eggs from dehydrating.

Eggs were weighed daily to monitor the weight loss of the eggs. Research showed that the eggs should lose weight as the chicks grow. The eggs did lose weight but nowhere near as much as the research indicated. At day 20 we were fearful that our eggs were not developing. Then we noticed that one egg moved by itself. Hope was restored! Mr Gay took the eggs home over the weekend but brought them back on Monday still unhatched. During the morning one egg began to show signs of hatching but it didn't come out of the shell until 4pm. A second egg hatched at 6pm and another three hatched overnight.

On Tuesday morning another two eggs were cracked and others were moving independently. At 1pm the sixth egg had hatched. As this report is going to press, we are awaiting the fate of the remaining eggs.

An unusual fact about one of the chicks is that it only has feathers on its head, wings and legs, showing no signs of feathers on its head at all. If anyone reading this knows why, Mr Gay would love to hear from you.

Thank you to Zeb Minett from Year 11 and Mr Lane for donating the eggs.

Year 9 Ag Class





Males who are 14-15 years of age in 2013 and who are in Year 10 can receive free HPV vaccine at their GP during 2013 only:

It is important when making the GP appointment that the receptionist is informed of the reason for the visit and that sufficient time is allowed for the vaccine to be ordered and delivered to the GP.

- HPV vaccination will continue to be offered annually to female students in Year 7 only.
- The Australian Government has developed [information](#) for parents, students and health professionals about HPV vaccination.

Link:

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/schoolvaccination.aspx>

The "Dream" Excursion

Wednesday, 7th August, 2013.

What: A brightly lit *Mid Coast Shuttle* coach and a very competent driver awaits 51 CHS students and two teachers, Ms L McDonnell and Ms J Kirkby, to board. The students were a blend from Year 10 Drama, 8 CHACE English, Year 9 and 10 English and Year 12 Drama.

Why: To go to Sydney to see a live performance of Bell Shakespeare's performance of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at the Sydney Opera House. The performance was scheduled for 1pm.

Details: There was a fairly quiet time on board for the first two hours, thankfully! This was largely due to sleepiness and an entertaining DVD on the coach's flat screen TV.

A breakfast stop at McDonalds at Moto Farm saw all students eat fast, keen to get back on the road.

(In fact, students were back on the coach 10 minutes earlier than organised, very strange for CHS students in the past.....)

10.50am: The next stop was at Market City in Hay Market where there was lots of shopping, some eating for lunch and changing into school uniform.

12pm: All aboard the coach to the Opera House. Much excitement and "shopping sharing".

12.15: Arrival at Macquarie Street bus parking depot. A small altercation with a taxi driver, the coach was slightly larger..... All off the coach, a quick photo shoot which was not entirely successful due to a lack of space and large student numbers.

This was followed by a quick, excited walk to the Sydney Opera House then more photos on the famous steps. The whole group, led by Ms McDonnell, then walked all over the Sydney Opera House. We were actually lost, not sure where we were going. The bowels of the Sydney Opera House is not very exciting....

We eventually arrived at the Playhouse Theatre in the Sydney Opera House.

The performance of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" was entertaining, skillful and appreciated by all students, including non-Drama students.

The performance, lasting 90 minutes without an interval, passed so quickly due to the very professional display of talent.

After the performance students and staff were enthralled with the spectacular scenery and beautiful weather on the forecourt and outside of the theatre. The Sydney Harbour

Bridge and the huge P&O cruise ship were greatly appreciated by all. Many photos were taken, again.

Reluctantly, students and teachers returned to the coach, happy and satisfied.

3pm: Everyone aboard the coach, escaping peak hour traffic.

4.20: A meal break at the twin servo on the F3. Again, students were ahead of schedule, keen to get home.

5pm. Departure from the service centre. A "gripping" DVD and some very "average" Year 10 Drama singing kept most awake until arrival at CHS at 7.30, as planned.

OVERALL, A GREAT DAY. IT WAS FILLED WITH VARIETY, CULTURE AND FUN. MANY THANKS TO ALL STUDENTS INVOLVED, MS KIRKBY AND STEVE, THE OWNER /OPERATOR OF "MIDCOAST SHUTTLE".

Ms McDonnell, Drama Co-ordinator



Tardis

How I won!

Written by Emma Campbell

On Thursday, 12 September I was walking home from school and a van was out the front of my house. The man with the package went to knock on my front door but he turned around and asked me if I was Emma Campbell? I said yes, so he gave me a huge package. It was heavy. I ran out the back of the house carrying the package and I was yelling, "Mum, saying Mum, Mum, I got a present". My Mum opened it a little and then started laughing and told me to go into the lounge room to open it. So I did. I started laughing and crying out of happiness. It was a prize for a competition I won.



The prize was for a drawing competition Ms Schneider, our Librarian, encouraged me to enter about Dr Who. I had to draw myself inside the TARDIS (time travelling machine), and I won! I was so happy because it was almost over two terms ago that I entered. I thought I lost the competition but I won. I am very happy!



Emma Campbell with prize DVDs



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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

EXTRA SUPPORT FOR THE HSC

We know having access to as much information as possible can make a big difference when it comes to the HSC, which is why the University of Newcastle developed HSC Coach.



HSC Coach is an online study support tool designed to provide you with access to expert HSC advice when you need it, designed to supplement what you are learning in class.

You can log on at any time and as often as you like and access video lectures and downloadable resources relevant to the HSC subjects you are studying. There is also a helpful video on managing stress and your well-being during the exams.

Access to the site is free, you just visit www.hsccoach.com.au, set up an account, and take advantage of the resources available.

