



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2 TERM 1, 2017

Principal's Report

As Term 1 draws to a close I'm struggling to think of a more hectic start to a year. I'm sure there have been many, however, that old trick of the mind places most recent events fresh in the memory bank and dims earlier ones. That being said, I think I have some evidence to back up my theory. For example, on one Friday alone we ate breakfast together in recognition of the Close the Gap campaign, worked together on taking a stand against bullying through the middle of the day, then to finish off we shared a sausage sanga and supported staff and students participating in Shave for a Cure. While these events were taking place we were also hosting 80 students for the Bangarra Regional Dance Workshop, never a dull moment. There were of course plenty of others, each immortalised on our Facebook timeline! If you haven't found us yet search for Chatham High – Official. A big thank you to parents and carers for the great rollup to our parent/teacher interviews, it was incredibly inspiring



to see the genuine commitment to working in partnership to help our students realise their potential. To further assist families in connecting with the school, next term we plan to launch the Millennium Parent Portal. This web-based service allows students and their families and carers to access important information LIVE from our school administration system. Timetables, the school calendar and attendance can all be accessed through a secure login and a few clicks. Year 7 students will be the first group to trial the portal early next term, with the hope that all years will be able to access the Parent Portal by the end of term 2. The portal will round out the tools we can now use to connect school to home. (Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ChathamHighTareeOfficial/> Website: <http://www.chatham-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/> Skoolbag: this app can be downloaded for free on both Apple and Android devices).

The push for greater communication with those at home has come in part through our Parents and Citizens committee or P&C. Most people will have heard of the P&C and that they help schools in some way, however many may not realise just how important a role they play in assisting with the operation of the school. Advising on the development of policy and finance through to the operation of the school canteen, the Chatham High P&C have assisted us in charting a course for our school that lies in step with community expectation. Did you Know? The Chatham High Canteen is a P&C operated canteen that over the last two years has donated \$33500.00 back to the school in support of our educational and extracurricular programs. This has only been

possible through the generous support of volunteers, who assist in the day to day operation of the canteen. Can I encourage all families to consider volunteering some time if you're available through the day and to watch out for P&C meeting notices. A healthy P&C committee can provide a hugely positive influence in a school community. At the recent Annual General Meeting of the P&C the leadership team of 2016 were returned for 2017 and I look forward to working in partnership with them to keep Chatham on the improve. Our P&C executive committee are; President Dale Patterson, Vice President Leon Minett, 2nd Vice President Maree Cooper, Treasurer Amanda Patterson, Secretary Sue LeStrange, Canteen Representative Sue LeStrange.

A very quick reminder that students should not be on school grounds prior to 8:30am, staff will be on duty from 8:30am onwards. Friday, April 7 is the last day of this term, all students are to return Wednesday, April 26.

As we head to the break, I'd like to thank the students and staff who have hit the ground running in 2017. As I mentioned at the start of my column, I cannot remember a busier one. As is customary, Chatham High School students are invited to join the school leaders and SRC in marching on ANZAC day. Students who wish to attend should meet at the corner of Macquarie St and Victoria St Taree, at 9.45am, in full school uniform, for a 10.00am start. School students play an important role on this solemn occasion as we are reminded of their future promise while we honour those who sacrificed so much. Lest We Forget.

Dates to Remember

6 Apr	Sydney Royal Easter Show Excursion Zone cross country	22-26 May	Year 11 Mid-course Examinations
6-9 Apr	Sydney Royal Easter Show	29 May -	
7 Apr	Pink Stumps Day	2 June	Taree District Eisteddfod
8 Apr -		29 May -	
24 Apr	School Holidays	2 June	Stage 4 Mid Course Examinations
24 Apr	Staff Development Day - No Students	2 June	Hunter Regional Cross Country
25 Apr	Public Holiday - ANZAC DAY Students may wish to represent Chatham High at the ANZAC march.	5 June -	
25-26 Apr	Kempsey Show	9 June	Stage 5 Mid Course Examinations
26 Apr	School returns for all students	8 June	Year 7 Vaccinations
26 Apr	Year 11 Study Skills with Elevate Education	13 June	Wollotuka University visit - Years 10 - 12 Aboriginal students
27 Apr	ANZAC Day Assembly	16 June -	
2 May	Whole school athletics carnival	23 June	Biology Experiment Fest Physics Experiment Fest Chemistry Experiment Fest
9-12 May	NAPLAN (Yrs 7 and 9)	27 June	Football Colour Day
9 May	Senior aboriginal cultural excursion	30 June	NAIDOC Assembly
13-19 May	Wingham Beef Week	3 July -	
16 May	Support Unit Camp Elim excursion	16 July	Winter Holidays
18 May	Zone athletics carnival	17 July	Staff Development Day - No Students
19 May	Mini Muddies Year 10 Science and Engineering Challenge	18 July	School returns for all students

Waterpolo

On Thursday the 23rd of February our Open's Water Polo team represented Chatham HS in the local gala day.

The Chatham boys team were down on numbers and general fitness was a hurdle the boys couldn't overcome. After an aggressive start from Taree HS, our Chatham boys scored some late goals to even the final score. The boys next game was a merged team of Chatham and Taree HS boys against Tomaree from Newcastle. As it was a friendly, the scores were not important and the boys had fun.



Our girls had plenty of players and began strongly against Wingham HS with a Priya Bourke scoring some early goals. Final score was 6-1. The girls second game was expected to be their toughest against Taree HS. Again, Priya Bourke scored some early goals with some outstanding playing from a new team member in Jada Humphries, who scored 6 individual goals.

Hard to pick our best players but a special mention is for Brodi Woolnough, who was tireless in defence, Teagan Phillips in goal and a new player Georgia Boscher, who was competitive even though she is in Year 7.

The girls went on to play Tomaree HS from Newcastle in the regional qualifier on Friday 3rd March at Taree pool. Unfortunately they were defeated on this occasion.

Cheers
Nick

Congratulations to:



Zone swimming champions
Keira Boshier and Cooper Armstrong



Talea Fernance competed in the State swimming competition at Homebush on Sunday April 2 and Monday April 3 coming away with a 1st place in the 16-19yrs 50m Multiclass backstroke. Talea will now compete at Homebush on May12 at the all Schools Swimming competition. Talea also took home 4th in freestyle and 3rd in breaststroke. The smile on Talea's face says it all!



Information regarding the new minimum literacy and numeracy standards and what it means for your student

- From 2020, students need to demonstrate a minimum literacy and numeracy standard to be eligible for the HSC.
- From 2017, students can prequalify for the minimum standards by achieving a Band 8 or above in the Year 9 NAPLAN reading, writing and numeracy tests.
- There will be multiple opportunities for students to pass online reading, writing and numeracy tests before and after the HSC.
- These tests will be available for students to sit twice a year in Years 10, 11 and 12.

Chatham High has a number of targeted programs in our school plan to support students' literacy and numeracy achievement:

- All Year 7 students are explicitly taught the 'Super 6' reading comprehension strategies.
- All Year 8 students participate in the iRead and Sustained Reading programs.
- All students participate in the iWrite program which also includes a numeracy component.
- All students have access to Maths Online.
- A large number of staff are trained in the New Focus on Reading- a program to support the reading comprehension of students.
- Year 7 and 8 teaching teams meeting regularly to engage in collegial discussions to identify student learning needs.

To support your student to achieve the minimum literacy and numeracy standards, you can encourage them to:

- read, read, read for at least 20 minutes every day. The school library has an excellent selection of fiction texts for students to borrow.
- practise, practise and practise their writing every day. Students can write in a diary or journal or fill a note book with stories, poetry or news stories.
- expand their vocabulary and practise their spelling.
- visit www.mathsonline.com and practise speed skills and times tables.

Please contact Mrs Tracey Beckett for further information regarding the minimum literacy and numeracy standards.

Super Friday - March 17

We started Super Friday by sharing a breakfast cooked by the PDHPE department in recognition of the Close the Gap campaign.



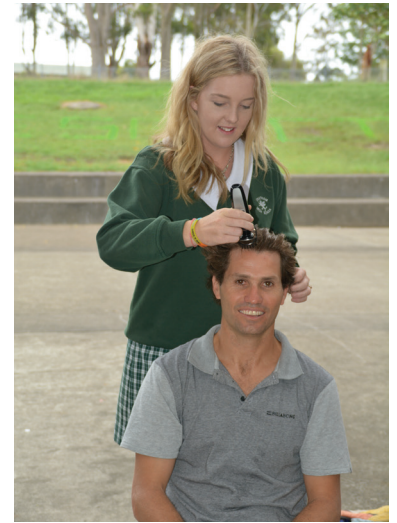
"Bullying No Way"

Chatham High joined schools across Australia in marking the National Day of Action Against Bullying. This day sends a powerful message to the community that bullying and violence is never OK. Students across the whole school participated in an anti-bullying program in their regular period 3 classes. This was followed by a whole school assembly where, in groups, students were given the opportunity to make a pledge of something that they can do as an action to help stop bullying. These pledges were written on colourful cardboard hands and students were assisted to place these pledge hands in the ground forming the word RESPECT. Students and staff alike then stood together and said NO to bullying forming a whole school circle around the word RESPECT.

Shave for a cure

SRC co-ordinator Simon Gay raised his hand to be the first to have his head shaved for the World's Greatest Shave. Students paid for the privilege of putting the clippers through Mr Gay's hair. Matthew Hutton, Mitchell Cameron,

Nathan Nolan and Jared Wooster all braved the shave. The cold weather change did see a few of the boys drag out the beanie in the following week. The SRC also ran a BBQ to contribute to the cause.



Bangarra Dance Theatre

We also hosted the Aboriginal Dance Workshop with artists from the Bangarra Dance Theatre. 80 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from the Mid Coast Region danced the day away, learning modern and traditional dance. Students with exceptional talent were identified from the workshop to join the NSW Public Schools Aboriginal Dance Company. We are proud to announce that both Ben Williams and Kaelan Saunders were selected to join the dance company after the workshop.



Music festival work placement

Chatham High's Live Production and Services students have taken their education outside of the classroom to enhance their technical competencies.

Five of our students: Jacob Cooper, Bianca Jobson, Veronica Batman, Parris Plankinger-Bull, and Jack Leech have been congratulated on achieving a high standard in providing technical Services at a recent work placement conducted on Saturday, 25th March at the Ocean Rhythms Music Festival held in Old Bar.

Under the supervision of their teacher Mrs Collette Eadndel, these students were able to investigate the various ins and outs of the live events industry, giving them very valuable, skills-based knowledge. It also enabled them to network with likeminded students and industry professionals as well as enjoy the musical performances of both local and international artists at the music festival. Students have been studying the two year course, Certificate III in Live Production and Services. From Front of house duties, staging and AV equipment set-up operation to live event production and system design, the industry-based program provides students with highly practical live production, audio-visual skills and networking opportunities.



The Lunch Program

Staff at Chatham High have continued to provide a regular lunch program within the school for those that may forget or not have lunch. In recent weeks on Wednesdays students have been assisted by student support officer Nathan Paff and learning support officer Cameron Holley to cook fried rice for hungry students. This program has been extremely successful, not only providing a nutritious lunch for our students but providing key living skills for those involved.



Nanga Mai Awards

The Nanga Mai Awards are an annual event organised by the NSW Aboriginal Education and Communities Directorate. The awards recognise and celebrate innovation, excellence and educational achievement in Aboriginal education in NSW public schools, school communities and Department of Education operational directorates. This year Ben Williams was the recipient of the



Student Leadership Award which was presented at Rydges in Sydney.

Mr K's Ag Team

Mr K and his team have had great success at the local shows this term

Comboyne Show 2017 results

3rd place Gramma
2nd place Gramma
2nd place mixed vegetable exhibit
1st Silverbeet
1st Eggplant



Tyla West, Natasha Ruge and Tyler Potts with the prize winning produce that went to the Comboyne Show

Gloucester Show 2017 results

1st place Gramma
1st place Table pumpkin
2nd place pumpkin
1st place largest cattle pumpkin also GRAND CHAMPION GOING TO ROYAL EASTER SHOW
2nd place Watermelon



Under 16 paraders
1st Lachlan Moore
2nd Belicia Watson
3rd William Sawyer
4th Thomas Tynan
5th Logan Marsden-Catt

More Gloucester Show Results

Best prepared animal

GRAND CHAMPION - Ratatouille paraded by Bridie Stone

Led Steer / Heifer Overall

GRAND CHAMPION - RATATOUILLE paraded by Lachlan Moore

Reserve champion - Bruce paraded by Michael Shelton

Best prepared Steers over 12 months

1st place - Ratatouille

3rd place - Bruce

4th place - Ted

5th place - Trevor

Best prepared Steers overall

1st place - Ratatouille



Best Prepared animal

GRAND CHAMPION - Ratatouille paraded by Bridie Stone



Other Information:

- * NAPLAN takes place in May for Year 7 and 9. See the letter attached for more details.
This letter was sent home to the families of all participating students.
- * We are trialling the Millennium Parent Portal with our Year 7 students. To access the portal we need your email address. The portal will allow you to check your child's timetable, student notices, the school calendar and book parent teacher interviews, just to name a few. Notes have been handed to all Year 7 students requesting you to either provide your email address or confirm the one we have on file. A box has been placed near the front office for the notes to be returned, once we have received all email addresses we will be in touch with details of how to access the portal.
- * Please note that the school car park on Davis St is not for dropping off students.

EMPOWER

One of the various missions that we have taken on board here at Chatham High School is to EMPOWER our young female students.

During the past decade there has been a significant upward trend in the attainment of a Bachelor or higher degree for women, and a substantial increase in female participation in the workplace. Despite this, female employees still experience an inequality of outcomes.

To improve the outcomes of our female students, we are liaising with the University of Newcastle where female students from the university will join with local businesses to guide and mentor



Kirrily Anderson from The University of Newcastle speaking to Year 10 girls about EMPOWER.

our girls. The main goal of this program is to give our girls the confidence and strength to navigate and manage their own career development. This program will allow students to create new networks and increase their social capital.

Through the mentoring program, our students will be able to develop networking and business communication skills. We have offered the program to Year 10 and 11 students studying business related courses for this year but hope that in the future we may be able to invite other years to be involved as well. This program will strengthen our female students' study as well as career development skills. This will support them in becoming strong, confident and informed young women.

PBL - Positive Behaviours for Learning



Congratulations to Emily Mills and Sophie Carle, who had their names drawn out of the PBL bucket to win free tickets to the Easter Show excursion.



Youth Week

"Get involved, be heard, make a difference"



National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2017

LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2017 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. Each student's level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student's right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 9-11 May 2017.

TUESDAY 9 MAY	WEDNESDAY 10 MAY	THURSDAY 11 MAY
Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)	Reading test	Numeracy test
Writing test		

In the numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be one numeracy test with two parts: Part A calculator is allowed and Part B where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 12 May – A 'catch-up' day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day. Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if they:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, **or**
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student's normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the school principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child's participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at <http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support>