



# Cootamundra High School Newsletter

**Respect, Responsibility, Excellence**

**PRINCIPAL:** Mr Neil Reaper  
**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL:** Mrs Janine Nelson

## 'S' IS FOR SOCIAL

'S' is also for a 'super' social. Our recent social organised by the SRC was a great night with over 150 students enjoying the music, the dancing and the socialising—dressed up as "something starting with the first letter of their name". Many thanks to the SRC, Mr Frilay and supervising staff for a highly enjoyable evening.



## PARENT TEACHER EVENING

On Tuesday 23 July (Week 2, Term 3) from 4pm to 7pm in the school Hall we are holding the semester one Year 7 to 10 parent teacher evening. This is an

opportunity to meet your child's teacher and discuss your child's progress in 2013. We encourage you to attend with your child to discuss and plan how your child can maximize their educational achievements.

## TERM 3 STARTING DATES

Monday 15 July will see staff return to school for a School Development Day and on Tuesday 16 July all students will return to normal classes.

## CALENDAR

### Week 9, Term 2

|                |                                |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Mon, 24 June   | Year 9 Careers EXPO, Young     |
| Tues, 25 June  | P&C (7.00pm in the library)    |
| Thurs, 27 June | HSC Business Studies Study Day |
|                | HSC Legal Studies Study Day    |
| Fri, 28 June   | Last Day of Term 2             |

### Week 1, Term 3

|              |                         |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| Mon-Fri      | NAIDOC Week             |
| Mon, 15 July | School Development Day  |
| Wes, 17 July | Taste of TAFE (Year 10) |
| Fri, 19 July | State Cross Country     |
|              | HSC PDHPE Study Day     |

### Week 2, Term 3

|                |                         |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| Tues, 23 July  | Parent Teacher Evening  |
| Thurs, 25 July | HSC Geography Study Day |
| Fri, 26 July   | Regional Athletics      |



Education &  
Communities

Public Schools NSW

**Cootamundra High School**

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## NAIDOC WEEK

Week 1, Term 3 will see the school community celebrate NAIDOC week with a variety of activities. Guest speakers, dance workshops, art workshops and a BBQ lunch will be just some of the activities held during NAIDOC week.

Cootamundra High will this year also host the community's NAIDOC week activities on the last Thursday of the holidays (11 July) from 10am to 3pm. Painting, food tasting, didgeridoo playing and storytelling will be some of the activities held during the day. All are welcome to attend.

## PREMIER'S DEBATING CHALLENGE

The Year 9 and 10 Debating Challenge dates back to 1950 when the Teasdale brothers donated a trophy for a debating competition between North Sydney Region Boys Schools. By 1982 it became a state-wide competition. It is now sponsored by teach.NSW.



The Debating Challenge is a 1 hour preparation debate. Teams do not know the topic or which side of the debate they are on until 1 hour before the debate starts. Once the preparation time is up, three speakers from each team take turns to speak, with a 4th silent speaker helping out during preparation and during the debate.

This year we entered both a Year 9 and a Year 10 team in the Debating Challenge. The Year 10 team consisted of Adam Martin, Josh Davis, Andrew Clements and Ben Jackson. Even though they lost their first two rounds against Junee High School and Murrumburrah High School by only a few points, they gained momentum last round to convincingly defeat the Year 9 team.

The Year 10 team now move to Round 4 to debate the winner of round 3 between Junee and Murrumburrah.



Our Year 9 team—Mitchell Holmes, Megan Chau, Jayden Sutton and Emily Webb—despite losing the first two rounds to Junee High School and Murrumburrah High School, had enthusiasm second to none and have shown such improvement losing the last round to the Year 10 team by the closest of margins. Furthermore, our Adjudicator, Mr Sheridan, commented on how each speaker had not only gained in confidence but also the manner they formulated and structured their arguments.

Both teams would like to take this opportunity to thank Natalie Berg who chaired two rounds of the debates, as well as Zoe Armstrong and Alecia Slavin who assisted with the catering.

## AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL VISIT

On 14 May 40 students in Year 10 travelled to Canberra to remember, interpret and appreciate Australia's experience of war and its impact on Australian society.



Students were using the visit to assist them complete their assignment and understand Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War. In particular, they were making the most of the enquiry-based resources to understand how this war divided a nation. By adopting the perspective of either a Vietnam Veteran or that of a military person's family, students busily took notes and photos from the gallery's walls to help them with their project.



Many students took the opportunity to visit the Memorial's Roll of Honour and in particular find the name of a serviceman, Pte Paul Large of Coolah, who had died at the Battle of Long Tan.



Some students were also able to find time for a quick visit to the Discovery Room for some amazing hands-on learning. There they experienced some war experiences as well as living conditions during five periods of conflict since Australia's Federation.

### OUTWARD BOUND

Three weeks ago I attended the National Aspiring Leader's Summit. From 1-8 June I was challenged physically, emotionally and mentally. Three of the days were spent camping out in the bush. We carried all we would need on our backs—which amounted to about 8kg. We hiked uphill for 6km and when we got to camp there was no fire so we had to eat freeze-dried curry and rice for dinner (yum). Some of the activities I got to participate in were abseiling and climbing a giant rope ladder.

One of the things we also had to do was build a community project. We were taught about public speaking, stakeholders, how to present a pitch, how to plan and organise a project, how to overcome obstacles... the lot. My project involves Eloura Special School. Right now they have no piano teacher and no good quality piano. I have volunteered my services as a piano teacher and begin lessons in Term 3. The SRC has offered to help me fundraise to buy Eloura a keyboard and we plan to have a FUNRAISING day in late August next term (I didn't spell that wrong, we are raising fun). This FUN day will involve a mufty day and a music performance in the school hall at lunch.

One of the most important things this conference has taught me is that you don't have to do it alone. Teamwork is vital, and I have a great support team in the SRC, who will be vital in the organisation of this event. I would like to encourage anyone and everyone to go for the things you want. There are so

many opportunities out there, especially for country kids like us! Go for your dreams and work hard

*Ariah Holmes, Year 11*

### ANCIENT HISTORY

*"Education is the kindling of a flame, not the filling of a vessel." — Socrates*



The Ancient History class of 2013 endeavoured on an excursion to Sydney for two days. These students were lucky enough to be able to attend the History Teachers' Association (HTA) HSC Study Days, hosted at the University of Sydney.



Students attended lectures focusing on their HSC Ancient History content: Pompeii and Herculaneum; Ancient Sparta; and Greece 500-440 BCE. Presenters included numerous university lecturers, such as Denis Mootz, and archaeologists such as Robert Brown.

Cootamundra High School received a \$1000 remote subsidy grant from the HTA to put towards this excursion. We thank the HTA, once again, for granting this money and allowing these fabulous students to partake in this excursion.

These Year 12 students presented themselves in a mature and dignified manner for the entirety of the excursion. I thank them, Ms Janelle Walker for her assistance, and the HTA for their ongoing support of rural schools.

*Britt Phelps, Ancient History Teacher*

## Celebrate Attendance

### Hints and Tips No. 3: Writing notes

Parents or caregivers are required by law to provide an explanation to the principal to say why their child was absent from school.

A note of explanation should contain:

1. Date that the note was written;
2. Child's name;
3. Days/dates the child was absent from school;
4. The reason the child was absent;
5. The signature of the child's parent or caregiver.

If more than one child from the same family has been absent a separate note for each child should be written.

A note should be brought to school on the first day the student returns to school after an absence. Your school is required to investigate all unexplained absences (where a child has been absent and no explanation has been received) within two days.

Did your child give the note to their teacher? This can sometimes be a problem with younger children.



Missing school leaves gaps in your education

The process will be complemented by a TASTE of TAFE morning on Wednesday 17 July, where students will visit the TAFE and sample the courses on offer. On Thursday 25 July, Lindy Billing from the Board of Studies will be addressing students and parents in the school hall commencing at 7.00pm. *This is a very important part of the subject selection process and all parents and students are urged to attend.*

### Tertiary Awareness Day

Last Tuesday 20 senior students attended this very informative day at CSU Wagga. Along with plenty of market stalls to visit, students benefited from a very informative address from the University Admissions Centre (UAC) and a tour of the campus accommodation.



### Helpful Websites for Year 12 Parents, Carers and Students

The Australian Government have provided a number of helpful online resources to help student make informed choices as they prepare to leave secondary school. **My Skills, MyUniversity** and the **Study Assist** website are all valuable websites and well worth looking into.

### Year 12 Early Entry to University

There have been a number of enquiries regarding early entry applications to universities. Most of these will open next term. A detailed note will be mailed home to parents, carers and students when all dates are finalised along with information on scholarships and UAC.

## ALL THINGS CAREERS

The Year 10 into 11 subject selections process is well underway at school, with students being interviewed by Head Teachers and Senior Executive in conjunction with the distribution of the Subject Selection Handbook. A note giving a comprehensive outline of the process has been mailed home to all parents and carers of students in Year 10. If you have not received one, please contact the school so that this can be rectified.




### Discover Engineering Day

An excellent opportunity exists for students in Years 9 and 10 who are interested in Engineering as a career choice. The 'Discover Engineering' Day is being held at Wagga Wagga High School on Wednesday 7 August and both girls and boys are strongly encouraged to attend. To register go to: <https://engineersaustralia.wufoo.com/forms/discover-engineering-day-wagga-wagga-high-school/>  
Registrations are now open and will close at **5.00 pm Friday 28 June.**

### CSU Warriahs Health Expo

CSU Wagga is holding their 2013 Health Expo on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July at the Wagga Campus. (Please see flyer). This will be in Week 2 of Term 3. Please see Mrs Alderman if you wish to attend – it is mainly aimed at Years 11 and 12 students.



**2013 HEALTH EXPO**  
**FRIDAY**  
**26TH JULY 10am—2:30pm**

|                             |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>PHARMACY</b>             | <b>ORAL HEALTH</b>   |
| <b>MEDICINE</b>             | <b>PHYSIOTHERAPY</b> |
| <b>NURSING</b>              | <b>NUTRITION</b>     |
| <b>NUCLEAR MEDICINE</b>     | <b>RADIOGRAPHY</b>   |
| <b>MEDICAL SCIENCE</b>      | <b>SOCIAL WORK</b>   |
| <b>OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY</b> |                      |

**For more information contact us at**  
**warriahs.csu@gmail.com**

Courses subject to change\*



**University of Canberra Open Day**

August 2013  
S M T W T F S  
1 2 3  
4 5 6 7 8 9 10  
11 12 13 14 15 16 17  
18 19 20 21 22 23 24  
25 26 27 28 29 30 31

**ASPIRE Open Day VIP includes:**  
-Transport to and from The University of Canberra (where available)  
-Lunch  
-Individual attention by staff and Aspiration Agents  
-Entry into the VIP area  
-Access to the ASPIRE photo booth

Register online by the 30th June 2013.  
<http://aspireopenday.eventbrite.com.au>

**REGISTER TODAY**

**YOU'RE INVITED!**  
DATE: 31st August 2013  
TIME: 10:00am to 2:30pm  
WHERE: University of Canberra  
COST: \$0  
30<sup>th</sup> June 2013

**31<sup>st</sup> August 2013**

Canberra Institute of Technology   
Workplace • Online • Campus | cit.edu.au

**Studio13: CIT Creative Industries**

Come and meet the professionals, use CIT's first class industry standard facilities and get an idea of what it's like to be a student at CIT for a day.


**Wednesday 11 September 2013**


Choose from a series of free, one hour workshops, in a variety of disciplines across the creative industries, including:

- fashion
- visual arts
- interior design
- photography
- graphic design and digital media
- building design.

You can select to attend three workshops from the above six disciplines.  
Enjoy live entertainment at lunch time by CIT Creative Industries music students.

For information and bookings please go to [cit.edu.au/studio13](http://cit.edu.au/studio13) or contact CIT Creative Industries on (02) 6207 3707 or email [sue.cusbert@cit.edu.au](mailto:sue.cusbert@cit.edu.au).

 Mission Australia



**Parent Sharing Forum**

**ARE YOU A PARENT OF A TEENAGER?**  
**WELL THIS FORUM IS FOR YOU!**

Mission Australia would like to invite you to participate in this Forum to discuss the following topics:

- Parents are People Too!
- What makes Teenagers Tick?
- Promoting Positive Family Relationships.

This Forum will provide support and information to you as parents of teenagers, and to provide an opportunity for parents to share their ideas and experiences of parenting teenagers.

**When:** Friday 26th July  
**Where:** Mission Australia (91-97 Wallendoon st. Cootamundra).  
**Time:** 9:30am till 3:00pm.  
**Cost:** Nil  
**To join:** Call Rachel 0477330812  
**If transport is needed contact us beforehand.**  
**Lunch will be provided**

**RAP-C-P**

**LADAK KIDS Inc.**  
present  
St. Ahead Progressive School



**SMITHY!**

**Cootamundra Town Hall**  
**7.30pm**  
**Thursday ~ Friday ~ Saturday**  
**4th ~ 5th ~ 6th July, 2013**  
**Friday, July 5, 2013**  
**11am Matinee**

**Adults \$20**      **Children \$10**

**Bookings at Moore Clothing from 20th June**

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