



# Cootamundra High School Newsletter



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

## BE BRAVE AND SHAVE

On Friday 18th March, three brave and generous students had their heads shaved for Be Brave and Shave. Josh Davis, Jackson Izzard and Jon Francis all gave up their locks which lots of support from the entire school and wider community. It was a great success with the majority of the school donating and in on the action. It was a very rewarding experience, not only for the three volunteers, but for the entire school. Due to everyone's kind donations, the school was lucky enough to raise more than \$800 resulting in Mr Reaper's 19 year old beard getting the trim as well. The SRC would like to thank everyone who kindly donated money to help out the Leukaemia Foundation.

Submitted by: Emily Webb



'GETTING READY'



'HOLDING THEIR PLAITS'

## CALENDAR

### Week 9, Term 1

Tues, 22 March	CHS Athletics Carnival
Wed, 23 March	Proposed School Social
Fri, 25 March	Good Friday

### Week 8, Term 1

Mon, 28 March	Easter Monday
Tues, 29 March	P & C Meeting, 7pm
Thurs, 31 March—Fri, 1 April	Year 12 Half Yearly Exams

### Week 9, Term 1

Mon 4 April—Fri, 8 April	Year 12 Half Yearly Exams
Fri, 8 April	CHS Fun Run



'AFTER'

### RETIREMENT MEDALS

Last fortnight the school had a celebratory morning tea for recently retired members of staff. Mr Darryl Shoard, Mr Geoffrey Black and Mr John Green who have been stalwarts of Cootamundra High school over many years received their retirement letters and medals. These three gentlemen have over 100 years teacher knowledge and experience in a range of schools, but in particular in the Riverina and at Cootamundra High. All three have retired to our Cootamundra community and continue to support Cootamundra High. We once again thank them for their dedication and support of thousands of NSW students and wish them all the best in their retirement.



MR JOHN GREEN



MR DARRYL SHOARD



MR GEOFF BLACK

### 1978 REVISITED

On the weekend of March 12 a large number of ex students (1978 leavers) attended a Cootamundra High school reunion. On Saturday morning approximately forty ex students and ex teachers took part in a trip down memory lane by participating in a tour of Cootamundra High. Many interesting stories were told, and memories revived. The old Baileyana's,



staff photos and honour boards were all of keen interest.

### 1978 OLD BOYS BACK IN THEIR FAVOURITE



CORNER IN SCIENCE!

### P & C

Cootamundra High P & C are holding their AGM on Tuesday, 29 March 2016, in the School Library at 7pm. All parents are welcome to attend.



**Mathemagic**  
(where every student counts)



### Top 10 Strategies to Improve Your Maths Results

Many students and parents ask for pointers and techniques to best learn Maths. Here is my top-10 list which applies to any level of Maths.

1) If you don't understand something, focus on mastering that topic before moving on to the next topic. It sounds simple, but it is absolutely essential. Lets say a student is learning Algebra, for example. Further, lets say he or she is having a hard time understanding how to add and subtract negative and positive numbers. All of us struggle with this in the beginning as it is a sticky point for most students. Some students in this situation, out of frustration that they "can't" learn this topic, will move on to the next lesson in the hope that they will be able to understand that one.

Maths is very much like learning to read. If you don't know your letter sounds then you have no hope of being able to sound out words of course there is no

way possible that you could read a book. All Maths courses are taught in a specific sequence because every topic builds on the previous topic. If you are having a problem with a topic, continue working with that one until you understand it and can work problems successfully. Find an explanation on the internet, attend tutoring, read the book and examples a second time, or even get a totally different book to have it explained a different way...but whatever you do, do not turn the page and tackle the next topic. If you do, you will get even more frustrated and you in all likelihood will begin to give up hope.

2) Work example problems and check your answers to gain practice with every lesson. Make sure to work the problems that have answers in the back of the book, and check every one. Always begin with the easiest problem in your book, even if you think it will be too "easy" to solve. It is very very important to build your confidence. This is why the textbooks begin with easier problems that no one will have any issue understanding. Gradually work harder and harder problems from your book and check your answer for each one. After working a dozen or more problems from the section (two dozen is best), you are ready to move on to the next section. Many students want to plow through a lesson just to make it to the next one. You cannot just read a section in a Maths book and become an expert on that section. You must work problems. If you can't work problems then you are not ready to move on. The good news is that working problems will build your confidence, and confidence is 100% the name of the game in Maths.

3) When beginning to work a Maths problem, do not "map out a path from problem-to-answer" in your head before writing anything down. It is very common when someone looks at a Maths problem that they try to "figure it out" in their head before writing anything down. Take Algebra for example. When a beginning student looks at an equation, he or she will be tempted to solve the equation in their head and not write anything down. Students are tempted to do this most often with Word Problems. Since a word problem is written in sentence form, it is common to think that you can "think your way to the answer". I will tell you that I never, ever, solve any sort of Maths problem without writing it down. Ever.

What you need to do is begin by first writing down

the problem. Then you begin to solve it one step at a time. Write down even the simple things. What you need to ensure is that every single step that you write down is perfectly legal. In other words, if you are solving an equation for example and you subtract "10" from both sides....write that down. Then in the NEXT step actually do that subtraction. Then if you need to divide both sides by "2" write THAT down...then in the NEXT step actually do the division. This gives you a paper trail to check your work and also it allows you to break the problem down in to bite sized chunks. This develops good habits and allows markers to give you marks for what you understand

4) If someone asks you for help, try to explain the topic to them as best you can. This one is going to seem a little odd for this list...but there is one universal truth. Those who can teach others have a true grasp of the material. Many times when studying in groups there will be one member of the group who is behind and doesn't "get it". Try to help that person, even if your own work will take longer. Not only will you feel like you are helping someone else succeed, but the process of rephrasing information back to someone else and breaking things down into bite sized chunks will increase your own understanding. It will help you understand at a fundamental level what the stumbling blocks are for the topic, which will help you as you move on in your Maths studies.

5) Keep your solutions neat and line-by-line. Always work problems vertically, with one step on every line. Never work horizontally. It may take more paper, but you will be able to follow your steps much more easily. More importantly, the teacher will be able to follow your work much better which allows him/her to give you partial credit. If there are just 2 steps when there should be 10, you will not be getting any points for your thought process. The steps you write down tell the teacher what you are thinking and how you are attacking the problem.

6) Don't work problems very late at night. You are doing yourself a disservice. I have stared at problems for hours because I just could not sleep until I knew how to solve it...then I finally fell asleep out of extreme fatigue...but when I woke up it just seemed so simple how to proceed with the problem. Also, I have worked problems at night and got the wrong answer, and I knew I must have a silly mistake in the solution. I would usually set out to find it, but many times when you are tired you simply can't find the

silly mistake. The next morning after about 5 minutes I could spot the simple sign error or even a simple multiplication error that caused the problem.

8) If the problem lends itself to it, draw a picture of the problem. This is most applicable for Trigonometry, Calculus, and Physics Students, but also applies to any word problem in basic Maths or Algebra. Please do yourself a favour and draw a picture of what the problem is describing, even if your picture is simple. We are visual beings...the process of drawing the situation causes us to internalize what the problem is really asking for. It helps figure out how to proceed. If you are in Calculus, definitely draw pictures for all related rate problems, definitely draw a picture of all of your 3-dimensional problems (3d integrals). If you are in basic Maths and Jenny gives Bob 2 pencils and Bob gives 1 pencil away, draw that situation. It will really help you figure out how to proceed.

Remember, there is no silver bullet in learning Maths. It comes with taking things one step at a time and with practice. The tips above will help you along in your Maths studies, and give you confidence, and confidence is 100% the name of the game in learning any level of Maths.

For questions relating to Mathematics at Cootamundra High School ring the school on 69 422711 or email [paul.frilay@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:paul.frilay@det.nsw.edu.au)

Useful study websites

<https://www.khanacademy.org/math>

<http://mathswebsite.com/>

<https://www.wolframalpha.com/examples/Math.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/>

(insert the topic into the search bar)

<https://www.google.com.au/>

(insert the topic into the search bar)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TAS TERM 1

In Mr Phillips Rooms this year has seen many great projects produced.

**YEAR7 TECHNOLOGY MANDATORY** has seen the class design an outdoor entertainment area and is producing a scale model of the design.



**YEAR 8 TECHNOLOGY MANDATORY** have been creating bread/cheese boards with many smart designs produced. High quality work has been achieved in their folios and in the workshop.



**YEAR 9 INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY METAL** has seen metal toolboxes being cut and folded in the workshop, with strong results from the budding metal workers.



**YEAR 10 INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY METAL** is in the process of creating a folding leg BBQ. The class has been developing their skills in designing and producing their own BBQs, with good results.



**YEAR 11 CONSTRUCTION** has commenced this year, students completing the program will achieve a Certificate 2 in Construction (effectively year1 of a apprenticeship). Early results have displayed good work ethic and strong practical skills. Later this year the students will undertake work placement in a variety of trades.



## THE CAREERS DESK

### CLAIMING THE DATE

May 2nd will see the Annual Careers Expo being held in Young. Year 10 will be invited to attend for the morning session and there will be more details closer to the date.

### ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY CADETSHIP PROGRAM

Students interested in applying for these cadetships are invited to visit [www.etcad.com.au](http://www.etcad.com.au) for further information. Cadetships are generally structured so that a person can study at university but also be employed by a company or business.

### STARTING YOUR FIRST JOB OR UNIVERSITY?

Australia Post is now offering an easy and simple way for students to get a Tax File Number, and will now verify ID's for TFN applications. Go to



[www.ato.gov.au/TFNApply](http://www.ato.gov.au/TFNApply) to find out more.

auspost.com.au

## Starting your first job or university?

Australia Post now offers an easy and simple way to get your tax file number

Go to [www.ato.gov.au/TFNApply](http://www.ato.gov.au/TFNApply) to find out more.

Australia Post now verifies your ID for tax file number applications

Australian Government Australian Taxation Office

### UNIVERSITY OPEN DAYS AND COURSE GUIDES

Information about open days and copies of course guides are starting to arrive for 2016. UTS (University of Technology, Sydney) and LaTrobe University has information now available from the Careers Office and Senior Study.

### CSU MYDAYS

Charles Sturt University have a series of MyDays coming up in the school holidays. Clinical Science, Dental Science, Pharmacy and Physiotherapy will be held on Friday 15 April in Orange. Communications and Creative Industries will be in Wagga on the 18 April. Policing, Law and Criminal Justice will be in Bathurst on Monday 18 April as well. Nursing and Paramedics will be held in Bathurst on Thursday 21 April. To register, please see Mrs Alderman in the Careers Office.

### INTRODUCTION TO EARLY CHILDHOOD/NANNY COURSE

TAFE Riverina Wagga Campus is running this course from Tuesday 26 April to Tuesday 17 May 2016 (4 Tuesday evenings). Anyone considering travelling

overseas as a nanny for a gap year or working in an early childhood setting is encouraged to enquire. Call into the careers office for more details.

## TAFE RIVERINA INSTITUTE

### Introduction to Early Childhood/Nanny

Thinking of travelling overseas to become a Nanny or interested in working in an Early Childhood setting?

This course is a taster for those interested in a career in Early Childhood or providing you with the skills to become a Nanny.

Topics covered include care for babies, support holistic development, ensure children's health and safety, provide healthy food and drink, supporting behaviour and provide play experiences for children.

Workshops will be largely of a practical nature.

Date	Tuesday 26 April to Tuesday 17 May 2016
Time	5.30pm to 8.30pm
Venue	TAFE NSW Riverina Institute Wagga Wagga Campus Corner Macleay and Coleman Streets
Cost	\$400
Delivery	4 Tuesday evenings. No assessment required.

Enquiries to Barb Withers 69381477 or Jenny Nechvatal 69381357.

[www.rit.tafensw.edu.au](http://www.rit.tafensw.edu.au) CALL 1300 TAFE RI 8 2 3 3 7 4

### SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

## EVERY DAY COUNTS...

A day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...	This means that the best your child can achieve is...
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 1/2 years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 1/2 years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

Give your child every chance to succeed...

Every day counts!

Monday  
Tuesday  
Wednesday  
Thursday  
Friday

## SCHOOL BASED IMMUNISATION PROGRAM FOR 2016

Head Nurses from the local HealthOne - Community Health Centre will visit the school on three occasions and provide the following vaccines during 2016

### 18th May 2016

Year 7 students: Dose 2 HPV

### 7th September 2016

Year 7 students Dose 3 HPV

Students will not receive vaccines without a signed consent.

If you have any queries, please contact Fiona Grogan on 69401111.

## WHATS ON AT THE ART CENTRE

### THE DRESSMAKER

Do not miss this fabulous Australian film. Wednesday 16 March at 10:30 & 7pm

& Sunday 20 March @ 5pm

All tickets \$12 and please be seated by 5 mins prior to start time. First in, best seats (all good seats).



## MISSION AUSTRALIA HAPPENING

### EXPRESSIVE ARTS ACTIVITY

Are you between 12 - 17 years, like doing art? Join in our Expressive Arts activity



Where: Mission Australia Cootamundra

Suite 5, 91-97 Wallendoon Street, Cootamundra.

When: Tuesday, 19th April 2016 Time: 10.30 - 12.30

RSVP is essential, limited places. Please contact Carolyn 0418285681

or email [afcrefferrals@missionaustralia.com.au](mailto:afcrefferrals@missionaustralia.com.au).

**MISSION AUSTRALIA**

## MOTHER DAUGHTER ACTIVITIES

Feeling like there is never enough time to do things together? Want to spend quality time with each other?

Here is a great opportunity to just do that, spend quality time with each other as Mother and Daughter (12-17).



Where: Mission Australia Cootamundra

Suite 5, 91-97 Wallendoon Street, Cootamundra.

When: Tuesday, 12th April 2016 Time: 10.30am till 12.30pm. Morning tea will be provided.

RSVP is essential, limited places. Please contact Carolyn on 0418285681 or email [afcrefferrals@missionaustralia.com.au](mailto:afcrefferrals@missionaustralia.com.au).

**MISSION AUSTRALIA**