

School Uniform Shop Now Open

Our new uniform shop has opened for business and we would like you to meet Mrs Esther Johns.

Esther is our Uniform Shop Manager. Esther has over 20 years experience managing clothing stores in Sydney and has lived in Port Stephens since 1997. Esther's know-how and experience ensures that customers will be fitted properly and fully satisfied with their new uniform.



Tomaree High School

Forward Together >>>

Tomaree High Uniform Shop



Junior Uniform

**Open
every
Monday
8am ~ 12pm**

and

**every
Thursday
1pm ~ 5pm**

2009



Senior Uniform

*Special Opening Hours
(school holidays)*



<i>Monday</i>	<i>15 Dec</i>	<i>8am ~ 12pm</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>18 Dec</i>	<i>1pm ~ 5pm</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>12 Jan</i>	<i>8am ~ 2pm</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>15 Jan</i>	<i>8am ~ 2pm</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>19 Jan</i>	<i>8am ~ 2pm</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>22 Jan</i>	<i>8am ~ 2pm</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>27 Jan</i>	<i>8am ~ 4pm</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>28 Jan</i>	<i>8am ~ 4pm</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>29 Jan</i>	<i>8am ~ 4pm</i>



Sports Uniform

Please make cheques payable to Daylight
Sportswear Pty Ltd.
MasterCard, Visa & Eftpos accepted

Uniform shop opens - just in time for Christmas!

Yes, our uniform shop has finally opened - well stocked and ready to have all students looking good in 2009! Esther, our uniform shop manager has been very busy since opening on the first day of December. However, she is expecting sales to peak in January, just before school returns in the new year. Students are able to wear items of the 'old' uniform next year, but the Tomaree High Uniform Shop is the only place that our school uniform is now sold. Parents are encouraged to become familiar with the shop - its location and operating hours. Your ideas to improve the service are welcome.

Year 6 check out 'big school'

Last week we welcomed Year 6 students from around the Peninsula to our Year 7 Orientation Day. Students met various staff, including their key teachers - Year Adviser, Neanthe Marsh and Deputy Principal, Keith Freeman. Year 9 peer support leaders assisted groups of Year 6 students become acquainted with the school layout and systems. Students also enjoyed a BBQ lunch and attended 'taster lessons'. It was a great day and staff were very impressed with the positive approach of our newest students! We look forward to their arrival at the first school day next year.

Early university entry is a bonus for our students

It was great to see a significant number of our Year 12 students gain early entry to the University of New England (my old university!) and Southern Cross University. There is no requirement for the successful students to take up these reserved places if they successfully apply for entry to another course/university, but it is great peace of mind - and well deserved. Congratulations to all those students listed on page 4.

Traditional HSC morning tea next Thursday

For the last eight years Year 12 students have been meeting at school with their teachers to discuss their HSC and UAI results. This year the morning tea will be held at 10am on Thur 18 Dec, in the library. As the school is not provided with students' UAIs we are always keen to find out how students performed. It also gives an opportunity for students to see their friends and access advice on future career options, once their results are known. All Year 12 students who are able are encouraged to attend this morning tea.

Starting dates for next year

Starting dates for next year are:

- Years 7, 11 and 12 first day is Wed 28 Jan.
- Years 8, 9 and 10 first day is Thur 29 Jan.

As parents will be aware, the NSW Teachers Federation has announced that members will take part in a two-day strike on the above days, unless disputed matters are satisfactorily resolved prior to these dates.

If the strike goes ahead our school **will not be able to provide supervision on 28 and 29 Jan**. In this event starting dates will be pushed back by two school days for all students. If the strike proceeds starting dates will be:

- Years 7, 11 and 12 Friday 30 January
- Years 8, 9 and 10 Monday 2 February

Please keep abreast of news reports. If possible, we will publish the starting dates on our electronic sign at the front of the school.

Also a reminder that, on all school days, students should be at school no earlier than 7:45am and no later than 8:15am.

In memory of Luke

The last week of November was a difficult one for our school as students and staff mourned the loss of Year 11 student Luke Stevens. Luke was unique. He was well known, well liked and a special friend to many. This was highlighted by his friends Damon Berg, Andrew Irvin and Clinton Jones who each delivered wonderfully personal eulogies. His funeral was very sad for many of Luke's family and friends in attendance. Our Year 11 students are to be highly commended for the way in which they supported each other throughout this very difficult and sad time. There is a tribute to Luke on page 7.

Parents encouraged to participate

The next P&C meeting will be held on Tues 17 Feb from 7pm to 8:30pm in the staff common room. All parents are welcome to attend. Be informed and be involved!

Click - check it out!

The latest Click eMagazine is available at <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/technology/index.php>

In this issue you will find:

- Tips for searching online.
- Information about 'social networking'.
- Cyber-safety.

Have a safe and happy festive season

Can you believe it is the end of the year? Hopefully you will be able to attend the Year Presentation Assemblies to celebrate another year of learning. I hope that our students have had a great school year.

We plan to post the first newsletter for 2009 in the first week of Term 1. It will include information about our students' performance in the HSC and essential school information for parents such as assessment dates, canteen and uniform shop prices, attendance requirement and important dates. Information about our swimming carnivals, scheduled for Tues 3 (Boys) and Wed 4 (Girls) of Feb - and the corresponding welfare days for the group not at the pool.

Parents can also access our newsletters on our website at <http://www.tomaree-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/news.htm>

On behalf of all Tomaree High School staff, have a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Rob Farley
Principal

Calendar

Week 10

15th Dec	Year 8 Presentation Assembly 9.45 ~ 11am Year 9 Presentation Assembly 1.15 ~ 2.30pm
16th Dec	Year 7 Presentation Assembly 9.45 ~ 11am Year 11 Presentation Assembly 1.15 ~ 2.30pm
17th Dec	HSC results available online
18th Dec	Year 12 UAI results available online Morning tea for HSC students/teachers In the library at 10am
19th Dec	Last day of Term
2009 Term 1 Tuesday 27th January (Staff Only)	

Term 1 2009

Week 1 Start dates for students

28th Jan	Years 7, 11 & 12 commence (or 30th Jan if strike proceeds)
29th Jan	Years 8, 9 & 10 commence (or 2nd Feb if strike proceeds)

Week 2

3rd Feb	Boys Swimming Carnival/Girls Only Day Year 11 & 12 Drama students Onstage Excursion 10.30am—6.30pm
4th Feb	Girls Swimming Carnival/Boys Only Day



Careers

This is my last contribution to the newsletter - I will be retiring in 2009 after teaching for 33 years, a Careers Adviser for 30 and at Nelson Bay / Tomaree for 14 years. Thank you to all the students and parents who have supported me during this time – I hope I have been able to influence many students in achieving success in their lives. The most rewarding part of my role has been working with students on an individual basis. It is good to finish on a positive note - the following Year 12 2008 students have been accepted to Universities through Early Entry programs.

University of New England UNExtra – Andrew Asfaganov, Bethany Attwell, Emma Bender, Emily Duckett, Louise Gemmell, Ashleigh Griffiths, Damian Harrison, Daniel McDonald, Lauren Parsons, Sharlie Robinson, Tamara Tancred, Brittany Turrell, Joel Wilson Southern Cross STAR – Andrew Asfaganov, Emily Duckett, Louise Gemmell, Ashleigh Griffiths, Aiden Hayes, Lauren Parsons, Brittany Turrell Charles Sturt PREP- Lucy Diemar, Brittany Turrell

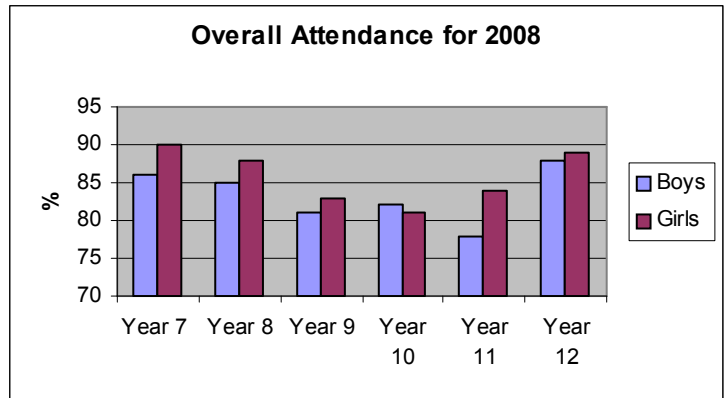
The early entry schemes provide students with another university option and are not based on their UAI. A reminder to 2008 Year 12 there will be a morning tea in the library on Thursday 18th December - this is a good opportunity for ALL Year 12 to get together with their teachers - we have been doing this for a number of years and this will be my last time!!

Anne Cheetham
Careers

Attendance News

A major focus of the Tomaree High School plan is to improve the attendance of our students. The Department of Education & Training aims for schools to have an attendance level of 92%. At present our school is not achieving this level of attendance.

Below is a graph of the attendance pattern of the students at Tomaree High School. This graph indicates that all years are below the required attendance level. It is a fact that good attendance leads to good results at school. I would ask parents and caregivers to encourage their children to attend school as much as possible, to send a note to the roll call teacher to explain an absence and to ensure they arrive at school before 8.15am for roll call.



In 2009 this school is changing the structure of roll call classes. Roll classes will be “vertical roll groups”, with a mixture of students from year 7 to 12. Siblings will be in the same roll class and roll classes will be based on the school sport houses, Nelson, Stephens, Tomaree and Yacaaba.

B. Foley
Head Teacher Admin



Former Tomaree High School Student To Represent Australia!

Amy Chippindale has been playing representative touch for six years. In what has so far been a stellar sporting career, Amy has played touch for Tomaree High in the Titans Touch Team (from 2003-2006) and for the Hunter Region at the Combined High School (CHS) State Carnival (2003-2006)



Amy's achievements include representing the local Nelson Bay Touch Association (2002-2006) as well as the Newcastle City Touch (2004-current).

Amy's selection into the Hunter Western Hornets team secured her a berth at National level. Amy has since represented the University of Technology (UTS) at the East Coast State Challenge, been selected into the Under 20's NSW squad and consequently represented NSW in a State of Origin Series against QLD in which NSW won 2-1.

Amy was recently selected into Australia's Under 20's Youth World Cup side, which will see her travel to New Zealand in January 2009 to compete against teams including New Zealand, South

Africa, Lebanon, Papua New Guinea and Singapore. Another event Amy will participate in is the Tri-nations Series against New Zealand. She will also be attending training camps in Sydney.

Our sincere congratulations to Amy, we wish her all the best for her future in Touch and good luck for Australia in New Zealand.

School student travel update

You may have recently heard about reforms to the school student travel program run by the NSW Government. I am writing to inform you of the changes.

Most importantly, the NSW Government will still fund more than 90 per cent of the scheme, investing more than \$430 million every year to get students to and from school.

Improvements to the scheme:

- **The pass can now be used until 7pm** for after-school activities like sport, music lessons, after school classes and other extra-curricular activities (The previous cut-off was 4.30pm).
- **Students can now travel between school and 2 addresses** instead of one. For example, this allows students to travel to their grandparents, to after school care or in some cases where Mum and Dad have different addresses.

Changes:

- A **one-year** infant/primary school student travel pass will cost **\$45**
- A **one-year** high school student travel pass will cost **\$90**
- A **family cap** means a family pays no more than **\$180** per year maximum
- For many families, school travel will remain free – if you have a **Commonwealth Health Care Concession card** your children will still **travel free**.

These changes mean parents will pay around **11 cents per trip for a primary student** and **23 cents per trip for a high school student**.

The NSW Government will continue to subsidise school student travel by more than \$600 per student each year at a total investment of more than \$430 million each year.

The eligibility criteria for the scheme remains unchanged. Application forms will still be available from your school.

If you require more information please go to www.131500.info or call the Transport Info line on 131 500.

Yours sincerely

David Campbell
Minister for Transport
And
Verity Firth
Minister for Transport

Maths Matters

Welcome to the last update for the year.

REPORTS

The Mathematics faculty write their reports based on their own class, with individual components such as topic tests, book marks, class work, assignments and end-of-semester exams potentially contributing to the report mark. The latest report is a semester report detailing how the student went in the second part of the year.

Please note, as this report is only an indication of the second half of the year: Class placements are not based on the position of a student in this report.

Factors influencing class placements include performances in the common tests at the end of each semester, both reports in the year, the influence of their behaviour and teacher professional judgement on the suitability of a student for a particular level. The awards at the end of the year may not reflect the position recorded on the latest report.

STAFFING

The Mathematics faculty will see some new changes to personnel next year with the retirement of Mr Wojko and Mr Cousins, the departure of Mr Doyle and maternity leave by Mrs Lyon. We look forward to a few new faces and seek the assistance of our regular casuals.

In this regard, I would like to thank Mr Lidgard, Mr McCartney and Mrs Thornton who have delivered consistent effort and content throughout the year in their relieving roles and mention how lucky THS is to have qualified Mathematics teachers to call upon in these circumstances.

MATHS COMPETITION

Due to the postponement of the previous formal assembly, the certificates were unable to be presented to students and will now be placed in their end of year portfolios.

TEXTBOOKS

Please make sure all textbooks are returned for the end of the year. Any student failing to hand back their textbook will not be issued with one next year until its return or replacement costs paid.

Students will need to have paid the textbook bond of \$100 before a textbook will be issued next year.

HSC MARKING

Once again I have had the opportunity to spend some of my own leave marking HSC General Mathematics papers Q23. Only 15 000 papers came through my door over the 3 week process. This professional development exercise keeps THS at the forefront of changes with the HSC in Mathematics.

Two out of the 6 major questions were marked through scanned images of student work being sent over the computer waves. This is why the students' booklets were different to previous years. Instantaneous results, feedback and quality assurance were some of the advantages of this system as well as opening up the experience to more teachers in the country areas. This will be the way of the future for all subjects, with General Mathematics being the first subject to go completely on-screen marking next year.

I would like to thank Mr Hales for doing an admirable job relieving in my classes.

BEST WISHES

I will take this opportunity to wish all students receiving results for their external tests all the best and I hope the results are what you deserve from all your hard work.

Also, best wishes to all students for their class placements for next year and I look forward to working with you all again after a refreshing break.

Mr Rod Lyon
Head Teacher - Mathematics

Nelson Bay District Junior Soccer Club Inc

2009 REGISTRATION DETAILS

Wed 14th Jan 2009 5pm - 7 pm
Tomaree Sports Complex
Sun 1st Feb 2009 10am -12pm
Tomaree Sports Complex
Sat 7th Feb 2009 9am -12pm
To Be Confirmed

ID required for all new players

Birth certificate or current Passport.
If you have a F.F.A no. please bring it along.

Further information will be made available at
www.nelsonbaysoccer.com.au.

Enquires to secretary@nelsonbaysoccer.com.au

For your information

Please be aware that the office will be open for the purchase of bookpaks and/or to pay school fees etc. from Tuesday 27th January 2009.

Luke Stephens

Luke was a respected member of the Tomaree High School student body.

It was never too much for Luke to say good morning to anyone passing by. And he was always willing to lend assistance in any enterprise.

Luke was a loved member and close mate of the current Year 12. His passion was music and everyone loved to spend hours with him jamming the time away. He was a drummer par excellence and when in the zone the band rocked.

The community as a whole has lost a wonderful young man but we will never lose the memory of our Luke.

Mark Wagland
Year Advisor



Volunteers Morning Tea Tomaree Education Centre says thank you

Over 100 volunteers attended our recognition and celebration morning tea on International Volunteer Day. Attendees were from the primary school as well as the high school. It is so evident that both schools could not run effectively without our great volunteer support. Volunteers help with the canteens, reading and writing, mentoring, library, excursions and a host of other events.

In a spirit of genuine cooperation and support our morning tea demonstrated community support and we would like to thank the following sponsors:

- * Dairy Farmers
- * PFD
- * ITHACA
- * Kev Baldwins
- * Seabreeze Bakery

Keeping the event running smoothly were our wonderful and talented Year 9 students, organised by Narelle MacBean :

- * Kira McAlice
- * Alisha Manning
- * Laura Wilson
- * Rebecca Hawthorn
- * Alison Driscoll

Also a thank you to Alan Beedon, Jim McColl, Greg Smith, and our magnificent canteen ladies for supporting our volunteers morning tea.

Liz Langsford
Canteen Supervisor



Swimming Carnival Information 2009

The Swimming Carnival along with the Athletics and Cross Country Carnival are **compulsory whole school events**. Parents should treat these days as normal school days. Carnival days are an important and extremely enjoyable part of every child's education. With the exception of illness there should be no reason for students to be absent on these days. The Swimming Carnival is a structured swimming activity where students will need to be able to swim 50m using a recognised swimming stroke. Please indicate on the permission note provided in the first issue of the School News Letter in 2009, your child's swimming ability. Non aquatic activities have been organised for non swimming students.

Tuesday 3rd February 2009 – Boys Carnival

On this day all students will go to roll call as usual. After roll call Boys will attend the Tomaree Aquatic Centre for the Swimming Carnival. Boys may wear house colours to the carnival. Nelson – Yellow, Stephens – Green, Tomaree – Red, Yacaaba – Blue. Girls will attend Tomaree High School for a Welfare Development Day. Girls must be in full school uniform on this day.

Wednesday 4th February 2009 –Girls Carnival

On this day all students will go to roll call as usual. After roll call Girls will attend the Tomaree Aquatic Centre for the Swimming Carnival. Girls may wear house colours to the carnival. Nelson – Yellow, Stephens – Green, Tomaree – Red, Yacaaba – Blue. Boys will attend Tomaree High School for a Welfare Development Day. Boys must be in full school uniform on this day.

Cost - \$2.20 entry to pool, (\$0.60 per slide or 7 for \$3.50 - not compulsory and very limited access).

Event Information

Events to be held on the days will be the 50m - Freestyle, Backstroke, Butterfly, and Breaststroke, 100m Freestyle, and the 4x50m Freestyle Relay. Novelties include Body Board races, Belly Flop contests (boys), Synchronised swimming (girls), Noodle races, French Cricket, Volleyball, Ultimate touch, Limited access to Water Slide (\$0.60 per ride or 7 for \$3.50). Cost of pool entry for the day will be \$2.20. The pool kiosk will be operating for students to buy food and drinks. Students should remember to bring plenty of sunscreen and water, a broad-brimmed hat, and rash shirt or T-shirt.

Port Stephens Zone Carnival

Port Stephens Zone Carnival will be held at the Tomaree Pool on Monday 23rd February 2009. Students who place 1st or 2nd at the school carnival in 100m events and the 1st three in 50m may be asked to represent the school. Nominations for the longer events – you must have ratified times to enter.

If you have any enquiries please feel free to contact me at school.

Yours In Sport,

Mrs D. Stewart and Miss S. Bergan
Swimming Carnival Executive

Girls Only/Boys Only Days - 2009

At the same time as our swimming carnival we have the opportunity to address issues that affect the personal development and well being of our students. In 2009 the Girls Only/Boys Only Days will be held at school. The girls will attend on Tuesday 3rd February and the boys will attend on Wednesday 4th February.

The days will include presentations from Rob Brander, the presenter of the Science of the Surf series. Rob's presentation to the boys last year was very well received. This year they will see the follow up program, the girls will see the first program. Other activities will be addressing issues like bullying, depression, resilience and healthy relationships. The presenters will include Rob Walsh, the Police School Liaison Officer, Wendy Birrell from Hunter Life Education and Glen Blanch from the emergency services. There will be cost of \$5 per students to cover the cost of the presenters.

We will also unveil the equipment bought from the proceeds of the walkathon last year. We have purchased a range of equipment, including giant balls for the use of the students at lunch time. As part of the welfare days students will be shown how to use the equipment for happy, healthy activities.

Vicki McCleer
HT Welfare