REMEMBRANCE DAY

To commemorate Remembrance Day last Wednesday, 11th November, Tomaree High School Captains Izaac Daly, Dannielle Brennan, Marnie Dowden and Jesse Hartwich (pictured left) planted rosemary in our Lone Pine Garden.
MY FINAL DEPUTY’S REPORT FOR TOMAREE.

As many would already know I am making some changes and retiring from full time work, leaving my position as Deputy Principal at Tomaree High. Over the past 4 years at Tomaree I have counselled many students about pursuing their passions and finding work life balance. I believe I am not so much retiring but moving to another pathway in life.
I have such memories of my time here so I thought I would share some of the best ones, in word and image.

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One of the great joys of teaching is the collegiality and friendships that form when we work closely together, and the laughter. I have had the pleasure of working with exceptional teachers in 9 different schools. I have found teachers, on the whole, to be hardworking putting in many more hours than the scheduled face to face school day, passionate about their subject area and with an abiding commitment to public education. I would like to thank all my colleagues, teaching and SASS staff, for the privilege of working with you for the benefit of the kids.

Over my 30 years of teaching I have seen great changes in the expectations of the community and the Department as to the role of the teacher, the curriculum and the relationships between the school and its community. When I first started teaching I was asked to make a cup of tea for my male Head Teacher, as I was the woman in an all-male staffroom. Women left the workforce when they had family. Now I see that women and the Department accommodate the other, acknowledging the role women teachers play, both in the classroom and in leadership roles. At present schools are involved in implementing a raft of systemic, curriculum and pedagogical changes unprecedented since the introduction of the Wyndham scheme in 1968. It is exciting to see the Department place such emphasis on teaching and learning. Adrian Piccoli’s initiative “Great Teacher’s Inspired Learning” is for me the driving force behind improving the quality of teaching and student outcomes.

One of the perks of being a Deputy Principal is taking a year group on camp. We get to join the kids in doing the same activities, building relationships with the kids in our care, staying up very late making sure they get their beauty sleep, mediating conflicts between tired kids as well as providing some care and consideration for those that are homesick. Camps are great! They allow staff to bond with their year group and to get to know most of the students individually. They are opportunities for students to test their boundaries and to overcome what seems to be an insurmountable obstacle. I fondly remember abseiling down a 10 metre cliff on one camp, my knees buckling at the bottom, staggering up and yelling “I want to do it again” Please encourage your sons and daughters to attend the camps and to challenge themselves. Moving outside our comfort zones is the only way we learn – whether we are a teacher or a student.

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Tomaree is situated in a most beautiful place. The beaches are stunning expanses of white sand, aquamarine sea and soft blue sky. I will miss the native bush that surrounds the school, the sand dunes and the breaking dawn over the Stockton Bridge. To work in a place that is beautiful, clean and filled with flora and fauna that people from other countries visit to see is a joy. I hosted a Deputy Principal from Canada last year. She was fascinated by the kangaroos and wallabies in the paddocks at Salt Ash, took a gazillion photos of the cockatoos and galahs in the school grounds and went koala hunting in every tree onsite. It is easy to forget that each of us needs to look after our environment, take pride in our school and take pleasure in its amenity.

We need to work with our landscape and act as custodians of place, reflecting the understanding shared by our Aboriginal students, staff and Worimi mob. The acknowledgement of country and the significance of place has been part of my thinking and teaching here Gorokan High School and NBSC Balgowlah Boys Campus.

During my 4 years at Tomaree the school has dealt with two major natural crises. The bush fires of 2013 raged through our community the weekend before the commencement of the HSC. In 2015 our region was hit by an east coast low that blocked traffic to school and cut power to a large number of homes of staff and students. On both occasions it was the care for community and generosity of spirit that made the heart sing.

It has been my pleasure to teach students not only about my subject, Visual Arts, but to shepherd students in my care. In the future I may not instantly recall your name when I meet you in the street but you can bet I will know your history, what year you were in, who was in your friendship group at school. After, I will remember your name, and I apologise in advance for not remembering instantly as by my calculation I have will have taught over 12,000 students. It has been a very rewarding career for me. I wish everyone well for their future.

Merry Xmas

Jennifer Florey
8L HISTORY NARRATIVES ON THE SPANISH CONQUEST.

8L have been studying the Spanish Conquest and its impact. One of the learning activities they completed was a narrative, based on what they had studied about the conquest. It was based on historical facts and sources they had been learning about in class. Below are some examples of their great work. I’d like to compliment them on striving for excellence.
Ms Tubnor - teacher

THE AZTEC LIFE

I was a strong Aztec’s jaguar warrior in my fast moving Aztec army and I am hoping to catch one of our enemies with the help of our macuahuitl (weapons) and chimalli (armour) in some of the fearsome battles and bring them to our altar to sacrifice them, to bring happiness to our gods and bring honour to our self and our family members.

One day a person (Hernando Cortes) showed up to our civilization and as we gasped and looked at him, it seemed to be one of our gods because he had all of the characteristics with his skin colour, beard and clothes. So we worshipped him and took care of him and all he mainly did is watch us and learn our ways.

The Aztec’s time period was between the 12th century CE to 15th century when the Spanish invaded them with the help of Hernando Cortes with his knowledge.

Anonymous

I was a Spanish soldier in the midst of war against the Aztecs. When the war was over the Aztecs captured me and a few more other soldiers. We were planning an escape plan. The next day they take someone to sacrifice so me and the others escaped and got back to the Spanish camp and told Cortes what happened. So Cortes got an army and went to war with the Aztecs and this time we won but before the wars we tried to stop them from sacrificing people but their king refused so we went back to the camp to plan an attack on the Aztecs, but we had an African slave with smallpox a very contagious disease. One of the other soldiers got the disease and the soldier the Aztecs sacrificed had smallpox so the Aztecs got smallpox and that’s how we won.

Anonymous

Aztec Sacrifices

I was doing my daily things and all of a sudden I was attacked by the Spanish but we won the war. We captured some men and I sacrificed the men and slowly cut the dagger into the body around the heart and took it out and it was still bleeding and beating. I threw it down the temple. By Beau.

BERGER

Once upon a time there was a man named Berger. He lived in Texas he was a farmer he grows crops. He had animals. He lived his life there for 15 years then moved to South America to become Aztec. He was a farmer for the Aztecs he had crops, animals. He raised a family there in South America where they farmed for their Aztec king who died of smallpox.

CORTES ARMY DEATH

My Name Hernando Cortes. I lead the Spanish army and they thought I was a god because I look like one.

Any way let’s start.

We are going to go and sail with an expedition to explore and find the Aztecs and kill them.

I was the leader of the expedition and so we set sail.

We arrived and started killing and we shed a lot of blood.

We are going to go and kill more but one of our soldiers got the smallpox.

Half of our army are sick or dead.

We arrive at the city and we get slaughtered. Only some survive but that was a big loss for us.
During term 4, the Year 9 Engineering class have been working on their folding timber table project. This project compliments the theory work students have been studying in their mechanisms and structures module. Each student has had to accurately mark out all required pieces of the table, measure out where all parts will be located and perform other task marking out, drilling, countersinking, manufacturing and fitting up of all required parts and hardware.

The focus of the table is the hinged section allowing it to collapse & fold up while also being stable enough to maintain its ability to hold a normal load for operational use. A key aspect of this project has been for students to achieve a high degree of accuracy in their measuring and marking out as it is vital to the functionality and success of the project.

Students have been exposed to different forms of hardware throughout the construction process including timber types, nylon washers, metal washers, nuts & bolts, and mild steel. The class is now moving onto a metals based production project which will form part of their CO2 production cars which will be built early in year 10. The CO2 car requires significant design, drawing, machining and production techniques. Students will be using hand tools, computer modelling, 3D printing, metal lathes and much more as they design and built their own model car.

Mr Crew
Industrial Arts Teacher
PHOTOGRAPHY

YEAR 11 STUDIES IN
“SURREALISM”

AN ARTISTIC MOVEMENT WHICH COMBINES UNRELATED IMAGES IN A BIZARRE WAY.

JESS LAUS
“TOMMY”

ASHLEE JONES
“I AM KING”

“surreal” - strange, having the quality of a dream.

GEORGE BURGASS
“DISTURBED REALITY”

MATHILDE CAMPOGRANDE
“FRAGMENTED ROSE”
Year 10 Design & Technology

Megan Thorne and Sarah Gauci from Year 10 Design and Technology class had their textile art work submitted to the Hunter TEA Textile Design Challenge.

The title for this year’s competition was “Under the Sea” and students were to use a variety of textile techniques to create their unique work.

Megan designed and created a lovely cushion, it featured turtle applique, hand painting and couching for the seaweed.

Sarah designed and created a beautiful bag featuring an appliqued mermaid, fabric painting and block printing.

Both students received a Certificate of Participation for their work.
Students in Years 10, 11 and 12 continue to investigate future career paths and Tomaree High is offering a number of opportunities such as Work Experience, Leadership Training and career adviser meetings.

Year 11 students have moved into their HSC year (Year 12) and with it comes a weekly meeting with your Year Adviser and the Careers Adviser. At these meeting there will be a weekly careers segment. Some information will be essential information about topics such as University and Tertiary enrolment, whilst general information about career and education opportunities will also be discussed. Students have already been asked to submit information about their possible future career directions; specifically they need to tell the careers adviser of three courses or occupations they would like to pursue. This is to prompt students to establish a career goal as students with career aspirations will have set goals for the HSC and are therefore more focused with their studies. The meetings are essential as they provide investigation of career pathways and we can help manage student’s progression beyond school.

Year 10 students will have the option to participate in a Work Experience program during week 8 of Term 4. Students should have almost completed the documentation for the week 8 placement, those students who have yet to organise a placement can submit a request to do Work Experience in Week 9. Students will need to arrange a host employer, then having satisfied this task they will need to collect paperwork from the Careers Advisers. These forms must be completed by parents, students and employers and then returned to the Careers Adviser for signing. The contract is not valid until the Careers Adviser has signed and returned copies of the agreement to the students. The whole process is a great training activity which helps our students acquires the skills for seeking a job.

All My Own Work is a mandatory ethical practices program that has to be completed by students before they enter Senior Schooling. It has been undertaken by the majority of our Year 10 students during the examination period. So 80% of Year 10 students have been trained to follow the principles and practices of good scholarship and are now eligible to enrol with the Board of Studies to complete their HSC. Unfortunately there are a number of students who are yet to complete all modules. These students will have been notified and they will need to complete the program using Tomaree Moodle. Well done to those students who have successfully completed the course and if the other students run into trouble, they can contact the Careers team for support.

Student ambassadors are a group of Year 10 students who perform voluntary work within the school and perform leadership roles at various careers functions. The students perform duties such as working in the school canteen and preparing the breakfast for the Before School Breakfast program. Year 9 students who are interested in performing such duties as an Ambassadors in 2016 will need to enlist with the careers adviser.

Year 12 students have completed their examinations and their focus moves to what they will do in 2016. Students who intend going to University will be anxiously waiting on HSC results, but don’t forget you can change your UAC options. Some students who applied for early entry have already received offers to study at University, congratulations to those students. Students who intend continuing tertiary education in the TAFE system should be enrolling right now. Hunter TAFE course offerings are now online at www.hunter.tafensw.edu.au. Those moving into employment, we hope you have found a vocation that is interesting and fulfilling. Whichever way you are moving in 2016, learning and education will be a constant in your career pathway and we wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

Mr MCElwain
Careers
Ooray for oration
I would like to congratulate all those students who, with steely determination, courage, grit and a lot of flamboyance, stood in front of their class and delivered their oral assessment. We as teachers know that this task is daunting but it shouldn’t be. This task is a very valuable one for the students as they will, at some stage, have to talk in front of an audience. So, again, well done.

And whilst we are sending out oorays, I would like to thank the vast majority of our students for being wonderful young ladies and men. They should be very proud of their attitude and effort this year. We don’t care if they are not Einstein or Shakespeare or even Fred Flintstone; what matters is at the end of the day they can look in the mirror and say “That’s the best I can do.” We implore them to keep up this wonderful approach as great things await them.

With assessments finished, it is important to realise that work still continues; with classes completing short novel/genre studies. Which means, we want to see all the smiling faces sitting our rooms; engaging, learning and having fun.

Say what!!
I would like to congratulate our debating teams and super coach Ms Watson, on their excellent achievements. It has been a long time since we had debating teams, but it was worth the wait. This year our Years 7 and 8 and Years 9 and 10 debaters were both Regional finalists. This is a wonderful achievement, and by all reports the opposition were falling over in panic at the mere thought of taking on our debating masters. Again well done and let’s hope that this inspires more young orators to join up next year.

Yrs. 7 and 8 team: Ben Anderson, Kaylah Newey, Ben Bradbury, Jaspar Gippel, Bethany Phillips.
Yrs. 9 and 10 team: Ellie Wagland, Brad Cram, Jessie Ballard, Josh Murchie, Claire Hancock, Samantha Rickwood.

HSC 2016
The new Year 12 students have commenced their HSC studies and are currently wrapping up their first assessment task. For most this will be their last oral task in English (can you hear the sigh of relief. The next task is their creative writing piece, time to tap into the left side of the brain. It is also important that they start to develop a good study routine so that, as the exams approach, they are not overwhelmed. Remember to draft and keep in contact with your teacher.

A big welcome
I would like to welcome Miss Bethany Adam to the wonderful English faculty. Miss Adam comes to us from a short stint in Newcastle and is excited to be here. She is a very professional and compassionate teacher who is keen to teach and support our children. So again welcome.

Fun with anagrams
Can you re-arrange the following words to come up with an anagram that is related to the original word:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THE EYES</th>
<th>THE MORSE CODE</th>
<th>DORMITORY</th>
<th>SNOOZE ALARMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELECTION RESULTS</td>
<td>A DECIMAL POINT</td>
<td>ELEVEN PLUS TWO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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Till next we meet
Mr Wagland
Head Teacher English
Mitch, you are currently studying Music in Y10. How long have you been playing an instrument?

I started playing the bass guitar at primary school in year 5/6 but then stopped before picking up the acoustic guitar about a year ago.

Have you had any music lessons?

My Dad, who is a Muso and has played in bands has been my main teacher.

You obviously love playing guitar. Who are your main influences?

Musical influences would be the music Dad played to me growing up: Jack Johnson, John Butler, Wolfmother and Eskimo Joe, but Hip-Hop is a big influence for me as well. I don’t think a lot of artists really grasp it; it’s so poetic.

So you like to Rap as well?

Yeah. I do.

Mitch, you’ve done some great performances and composition work this semester. Is there anything in particular you are working on at present?

Well, performance-wise over the summer holidays I’m going to try and get a few songs together and really work on getting my originals (songs) down. I want to write more over the break.

How do you compose and record?

I record myself on my phone using an audio app. Other than that, I just write down lyrics and play along on guitar and see where it goes.

What about the future Mitch? Will music play a big part?

Yeah. Music has been a very big influence in my life and has helped me get through a lot of things, like it does for many people. I will definitely keep it in my life and couldn’t imagine my life without it.

Are you continuing with Music here at Tomaree HS?

Yes, I sure am. I have chosen Music for the HSC.

Excellent Mitch. We wish you all the very best. Any last thoughts?

I just think that anyone who has thought about the idea of playing or writing music but hasn't yet got around to it, they should give it a go because once you start it becomes addictive and it’s always there for you…

Mr. Pearse – CAPA (Music)
End of Year Family Barbecue 2015

All Welcome

Please join Tomaree High School Staff and Students for our end of year celebratory barbecue organised by our Aboriginal Education Team.

Special Guests will be Leigh Ridgeway and Brooke Roach who will be available to answer questions you may have on identification of Aboriginality.

- Venue: Undercover area Main Hall (MPC) Tomaree High School
- Date: Thursday, 26th November
- Time: 4.30pm – 6.30pm

**P & C NEWS**

The next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 25 in the staff Common Room at 6.15pm. A warm invitation is extended to all parents to come along and give their input, share information and discuss issues to help create the best possible environment for our students.

President,
Richard Davis

**DEFENCE TRANSITION MENTOR**
Debra Mould available
Monday - Thursday
8.15am - 2.30pm.
Email: debra.mould@det.nsw.edu.au
or
Phone: on 49811444 Ext 432

**HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP HOURS**
MONDAY 8.00 - 11.00am
THURSDAY 2.00 - 4.30pm
TOMAREE HIGH SCHOOL
ABSENTEE NOTE
(To be returned to the teacher Period 1 first day back after absence or place in box in foyer)

Student’s Name: ................................................................. Roll Class: ..............................................

Date of absence/s: ..................................................................................................................................

Reason for absence:
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Signature of Parent/Guardian: ................................................................. Date:

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