OPEN BASKETBALL TEAM COMES 5th IN THE STATE

Well done to our Open Boys Basketball Team who travelled to Terrigal this week to compete in the Final 8 in the State. Thanks to coach, Mr Bartolo, and manager, Mrs Tatham.

Well done to all our students who participated and competed in the Armidale Eisteddfod with many individual and school successes. Well done to our Year 12 Class (Winner Folk/Popular Ensemble), Torsten Strokirch (winner Vocal Duet) and Hanna Gallagher (2nd Composition Years 9/10) with Emily Ryan on vocals who were all invited to perform at the Eisteddfod Gala Concert last Sunday.

The Term 2 Formal Assembly will be held the following day, Tuesday 25th June. Parent invitations have already been sent for students receiving awards at that assembly which starts after recess. Congratulations to all students who will be receiving awards for academic achievement and effort and to the large number of students who have qualified for a Gold, Silver or Bronze Award.

See you next term – all students return on Tuesday, 16th July.

Anne Matley
Principal

Armidale High School represented at the North West Equestrian Expo

Ada Garvey (Year 10) and Emma Swan (Year 9) represented AHS at the North West Equestrian Expo held in Coonabarabran from 30th May to 4th June.

This is a major equestrian event with over 110 schools, 600 riders and horses all competing over 5 days in a variety of challenges including one-day event, show-jumping, dressage, sporting, working horse challenge, team penning, and hacking. The Expo is held at the Coonabarabran Showground with all horses and most competitors accommodated on the grounds. It is a very busy, bustling and exciting few days of competition for both competitors and spectators, with some outstanding riders and horses on the grounds.

Ada and Emma competed in the Combined Training (dressage and show-jumping), Restricted Height Show-jumping, Sporting, and Hacking. Emma was placed 5th in her Combined Training at the end of the Dressage, and Ada gained 6th place overall in her Combined Training with a successful dressage test and clear jumping round which earned her a ribbon in this event. The girls and their horses were beautifully presented and were wonderful ambassadors for our school.

Special thanks to Liz O’Hara who donated saddlecloths which now proudly carry the AHS crest. The girls were able to use these during the competition. Later in the year we will be seeking expressions of interest from other interested riders so we can expand our representation at next year’s Expo.
Year 7 Independent Research Projects

The Independent Research Project is an enrichment task designed to extend our Year 7 gifted and talented students. On Wednesday 12th June 7CR presented their individual projects to an appreciative audience of Ms Matley, our principal, teachers, parents and visitors. The presentations reflected varied personal interests and ranged from humorous and entertaining, to informative, innovative, original and creative.

The experience provided students with a number of organisational challenges and engaged their higher order thinking skills. After the event they were asked to reflect on the process, including their problem-solving strategies and evaluate what they had gained from the experience.

You might want to check out Brendan's stop motion animation on Youtube: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=jqZn5D_SYSk

Term 2 Clontarf Highlights

Term 2 would have to go down as being the Armidale High Clontarf Academies busiest yet. The combination of a shorter term and hectic schedule of organised activities has kept the boys extremely busy. Below you will find a quick summary of some highlights under each of our key learning areas. As you will read…..it really has been another fantastic term. Well done boys!!

Employment
• Workplace visit to New England Community Mutual Credit Union where we had a tour, learnt about the different departments they have and what they do and found out about employment opportunities.

Leadership
• Aboriginal dancing – older Academy members have taught younger boys a number of dances and performed at local Primary Schools, and community events
• A group of boys visited Hobbit Preschool where they danced for the children and then read books and played tag and hide and seek.
• Older Academy members have assisted in organising and running competitions in the Academy Room and sporting carnivals and events.

Health and Well Being
• All Academy members have completed a general health check at Medicare Local. This included testing their hearing, vision, blood pressure, mental well-being and a diabetes check. We are the first of the 54 Clontarf Academies across Australia to do this.

Education
• During Term 2 the average attendance rate for boys in the Clontarf Academy was 87%. Many boys have shown an improved commitment to attending lessons and engagement in class work.
• A Group of ten boys whose behaviour and attendance had been excellent throughout the term were extremely fortunate to travel to Sydney to watch the first State of Origin Game. While in Sydney the boys also visited the Penrith Panthers where they had a tour through the club, watched the players train and shared lunch with them afterwards.
• The boys attended two special workshops during the Term. One of these was a Hip-Hop dance and song-writing workshop organised by Beyond Empathy. The other a Traditional Aboriginal Dance Workshop run by the Gomeroi Dancers from Tamworth.

Sport
• The Clontarf boys have trained almost every Tuesday and Thursday morning of Term 2, starting at 7.20 even when we were greeted by thick frost and freezing conditions.
• The boys have played in the Moree 9’s Rugby League Carnival where they came 2nd and by the time this goes to print will have played in the Clontarf NSW Junior Rugby League Carnival in Sydney where we will hopefully have brought home the cup.

Community Involvement
• Tour de Rocks – During the Easter holiday break four boys completed the ride with Bruce and James and all Academy members assisted to fundraiser $2800 towards cancer research. This was done through sausage sizzles, a MUFTI Day, selling raffle tickets, donating payments for touch football refereeing and Aboriginal dancing.
Tyran Blair, Dennis Cutmore, Scott McIntyre and Kyle Smith teaching the pre-schoolers at Hobbit Daycare some Aboriginal dancing.

Moree 9’s footy team who were runners up.

Clontarf boys at Origin 1 in Sydney….Go the Blues!!!

Our Tour de Rocks Team ready for another full day of riding.

P & C Column: Gonski Campaign

The Federal Coalition has restated its promise that if elected, a Coalition government will undo any Gonski agreements if every state and territory isn’t signed up by September 14. And they’ll do it before the year is out.

Help us make sure Tony Abbott hears from his home state of NSW today – don’t rob our schools of Gonski.

There are two simple actions you can take:
1. Send an email direct to the Opposition Leader – click here.
2. Call Tony Abbott’s office on 02 9977 6411. Need a few pointers? Click here

You may be one of tens of thousands of Australians who have joined the campaign to ‘give a Gonski.’

But today’s headline shows that so far, Tony Abbott isn’t listening to the community groundswell for Gonski. These two actions will take just a few minutes of your time, but will make a big impact. We need to immediately show the Coalition this is an unacceptable position, and that they must instead agree to honour any agreements made on Gonski.

It’s up to all of us to make sure they do.
Warmest wishes, The I give a Gonski team

Fund-raising

Remember: The cards which celebrate the creative work of students during Activities Week. The perfect gift!
From the Office: $2.50 each; set of 10 for $20.
Orders taken.
Year 10 catch-up SRE seminars

On Wednesday 19th June during Periods 3 and 4, Year 10 students participated in another SRE seminar. This was in lieu of missing out in Term 1. Seminars are an activity of Special Religious Education (Scripture). Students who are already exempt from the SRE program were excused from the event while all other students were in attendance. This event was organised by the Armidale Ministers Fellowship (an organisation representing Christian denominations in Armidale). The seminar was well attended and thought-provoking.

For further information please contact the school.
Mr Les Moreman
(SRE Teacher)

Mock Trial Team

The Armidale High Mock Trial team will face Carinya Christian College for the second time this Friday in the 4th round of the NSW Law Society Mock Trial competition. Our team is currently ranked 10 out of 180 teams in the state, however, due to the close scores they will need to win this round to qualify for the final 64 teams that go into the knock out stage of the competition. We wish them all the best today.

Open Girls Hockey - Regional Champions

Congratulations to the Open Girls Hockey team who had a convincing win over Oxley High to become the North West Regional Champions last week. The girls played exceptionally well displaying great sportsmanship and teamwork to take out the game 7-1.

The team consisting of Brittany Parker, Katie Kelly, Tenneille Carpenter, Paula Cutmore, Katrina Rekunow, Jessica Prince, Kristy Williamson, Natalie Waters, Maddy Russell, Caitlin Neeson, Lauren Grzazek, Tahlia Rekunow, Amielle Waters, Ashley Parker and Ashley Waters will go on to play in the last 16 of the state in the next few weeks. Good luck girls! We wish you well!

Regional Cross Country

Last Friday the Regional Cross Country was held at Coolah. There were 21 runners from Armidale High School who attended the day. The students were forced to run in difficult conditions due to recent rain and the cold day ahead.

There were some great performances, with Natasha Favatto and Elise Hay coming in first in their respective age groups. Elise has successfully competed every year since beginning high school and hopes to make it a clean sweep in the 17 years age group event next year.

Other students to make the North West team include: Sophie Bongran 6th, Amber Burton 3rd, Tom Smith 3rd, Kieran Smith 3rd, Niamh Wood 6th, Emily Ryan 3rd, Claudia Thorne 4th, Callam Godwin 7th (Shadow Res.) Well done to these students. They now go to Sydney after the holidays for the state trials.

Other students to run well were Grace Shortis, Georgie Cooper, Jack Steele, Jonah Skaines, Simon Kolokotas, Emily Kolokotas, Alex Brash, Harley McDonald, Eric Wei, Jaynaha Brown and Kiara Styles. Most of these students finished in the top half of their field of runners, and a few just outside the top 8, which is an excellent effort.