Principal’s News

Welcome back
A very warm welcome back to what will no doubt be a particularly cold term. We have hit the ground running and already the school calendar is filling up fast with a variety of events. The school website has recently been updated to include the Annual School Report and the School Plan 2015-2017, two important documents in planning and assessing school performance.

ANZAC Commemorations

Last Friday Mr Worley organised our ANZAC assembly which was one of the best assemblies of its type that I can remember. Our guest Commander Cameron Moore gave a wonderful address that really connected with the students in the audience. He asked them to consider that the people that were going off to war 100 years ago were, in some cases no older than many of the students who were present in the auditorium. As is protocol, the names of past Armidale High School students who lost their lives representing Australia in the various wars were read out. This was a very moving and sombre assembly and I thank Mr Worley for his organisation.

Many parents would have been at the Armidale ANZAC Day march on Saturday. It was wonderful to see so many young people in attendance representing the various schools and groups in town. Armidale High was no exception with over 40 students in attendance to mark the occasion. Our school captains, Jed Cranfield and Claudia Thorne joined many others in laying a wreath at the memorial in Central Park.

Yesterday the captains and I attended a Gallipoli pine giving ceremony at the Armidale Ex-Services Club. The 12/16 Hunter River Lancers and Cedar Nursery propagated the seedlings and distributed them to the local schools so that the trees will grow in the memory of ANZAC soldiers in World War 1. When the seedling has grown a bit bigger we will identify an appropriate location within the grounds to transplant it to and dedicate it to the memory of a former student who lost their life at war. We are very grateful to Major Andrew May for initiating this project.
NAPLAN Tests
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an everyday part of the school calendar since 2008. NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. The assessments are undertaken nationwide every year and this year will be held on Tues 12, Wed 13 and Thurs 14 of May. Students in Year 7 and 9 have been issued with relevant information about the tests. Please contact the school if you have any further questions about NAPLAN.

The School Plan 2015-2017
All NSW schools have adopted a new planning model for the 2015-2017 School Plan. The new approach brings together a number of reforms to give NSW public schools greater authority to meet the needs of their communities, to improve the quality of teaching in schools and to improve outcomes for all students. It is highly strategic, focussing on 3 key areas for improvement determined by the school in consultation with its community, to ensure a profound difference to the ongoing growth and development of the school. The Armidale High School Plan 2015-2017 can now be viewed on the schools website.

Carolyn Lupton
Relieving Principal

Science News Term 2
The Science faculty would like to welcome all students back to school and look forward to another busy and exciting term ahead.

I would like to advise parents of a number of changes in the faculty for Term 2. Unfortunately, Mr Martin has had to take some extended medical leave. We wish him all the best for a very speedy recovery. Year 9 has also been reduced from 5 core classes to 4, which has resulted in some timetable changes.

As a result, please note the following changes to the senior Science classes:

- Mr White will be teaching Year 11 and 12 Senior Science.
- Ms Ainsworth will be teaching Year 11 and Year 12 Chemistry.
- Ms Garvey will be teaching both Year 11 Biology classes and her current Year 12 Biology.
- Other senior classes are unchanged.

Mr Daniel Berzsenyi will be relieving for Mr Martin and has taken over a number of junior Science classes.

There have also been a number of other changes of teachers of Junior Science classes. We have attempted as far as possible to minimize these changes to reduce the disruption to the classes. All of our staff has communicated extensively to ensure maximum continuity of learning for all students.

We have a number of exciting events planned for this term and will keep you posted of these as the term progresses. The first of these are the Kickstart Biology and Physics workshops for Year 12 students of these subjects on the 12th May. Our Year 12 students are also encouraged to attend the HSC Workshops in Singleton on the 29th May to help them access valuable information from HSC markers from across the state.
Welcome to Nelly
Armidale High School welcomed a new member to its staff this week. ‘Nelly’ will be working in the Special Ed Unit as a facility dog in the near future after some extensive training. This transition project is in conjunction with Tamaruke Australian Labradoodles, Telarah Public School and Drummond Memorial Public School. A Tamaruke Australian Labradoodle has a consistent non-shedding coat, with intelligence, genetic strength and an easy going temperament, the traits required to work with our students. More information can be found at www.tamarukelabradoodles.com

Follow Nellie on Facebook. Just like the page Tamaruke Nelly.

Carolyn Lupton with a slightly bigger Nelly.

VISUAL ARTS AND DESIGN TERM 2 2015
Don’t PANIC! There is still 4 months before the Year 12 Bodies of Work are due for the 2015 HSC. After all we only just discovered the location of large box containing 12 wooden mannequins that Matt Nethery ordered last term. Who would have thought they were in the Year 12 storeroom? But Year 12 students are always beset by troubles like, artist’s block, having their artworks mistaken for rubbish and being thrown out, lack of sleep, too many shifts at work, getting a driver’s licence and turning 18. However here at AHS we overcome all these woes and somehow manage to produce stunning BOWs (Bodies of Work) on time.

Luckily Year 11 students are under no such pressure. They can dress up, take photos and draw using all sorts of exciting mediums (photos below). Yes, Year 11 is the year for exploring artmaking possibilities and researching wildly interesting and unconventional artists. With our focus on Australian artists, we will be visiting four world renowned local artists; Fay Porter, Joan Relke, Angus Nivison and Carl Merten, in their studios. Meanwhile, Year 11 will be working on large scale portraits inspired by our time in front of the huge Chuck Close artworks at the MCA earlier this year during our DADA Excursion.

Lauren Selby, Claire Hay and Sarah Howland – cheerleaders

Caroline Lupton with a slightly bigger Nelly.
Phoebe Anderson – the old guy.

Ashlee Albertson – is Frida Khalho.

Maddi Westhorpe – return to childhood, with her teddy.

Year 10 Visual Designers have been concentrating on product photography. Making ordinary stuff look super inviting and adding some relevant or quirky text. W25 has been packed to over flowing with fruit, veggies, biscuits, cheese, Lego people, red cabbage, luscious figs and a variety of exotic fabrics. The hard working design students were rewarded as they got to eat the yummy bits, sip chai tea while picking Jalesberg out of the feet of Lego dolls.

Year 9 Visual Designers are possibly the best class in the history of design classes. Diligent and talented, they have painstakingly designed and painted complex decorative letters in our study of fonts and printed materials. At present they are writing short stories which they will illustrate and make into books using modern and traditional techniques, creating unique publications.

Years 7 and 8 Art Attackers have been amused by such comic greats as Leunig and Judith Hycek, while learning to draw cute and expressive cartoon creatures. Now they are into stencilling, creating their own stencils with all elements attached to “mother” - ask them! The next big thing will be a stencil print onto a tee-shirt.

Year 7 are playing with hot wax, making large batik designs. It is even more fun than playing with dripping candles at the dinner table. In art theory, we are exploring the seven Elements of Design and researching Australian art from long ago to the present day.

Fiona Xeros, Art Teacher

**Year 10 Visual Art**

Year 10 Visual Art students have been working on a street art unit in which they are to install a site-specific work somewhere in the school or on the school grounds. The students’ work needed to interact with the environment (the site) to enhance its meaning.

Francesca Branagan, *Balancing Act* Installation
Year 11 Photography
Year 11 photography students are immersed in darkroom photographic techniques and investigating how cameras work. Believe it or not this image was taken with a MILO tin.

Photography by Emily Paul

Year 12 Photography
Year 12 photography students have been working on a unit on portraiture and studio lighting. Studio lights allow the students to have full control over the way their subject is lit and provide very atmospheric, moody images.

Photography by Zahra Knable

Year 8 Visual Art
Year 8 Visual Art students are working in the medium of linoleum, creating interesting portrait images. Lino cuts allow the students to add interesting textures and create an edition of their work. In art theory they are exploring the principles of design.
Year 9 Visual Art
Year 9 Visual Art students are completing an appetising unit about food in art. They have been creating soft sculptures that look realistic enough to eat.

Photo of soft sculpture, by Charlotte Russell
David Willis, Art Teacher

The New England Conservatorium of Music (NECM) annual Junior Orchestra Workshop gives young musicians an inspiring two days of intensive performance experience playing in a large orchestra under the leadership of specialist conductor Anne Thrall and NECM tutors.

This workshop is open to students in Years 2–5 who can read music and have at least 12 months experience playing one of the following instruments: violin, viola, cello, bass, flute, clarinet, oboe, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, French horn, tuba, or orchestral percussion (strings may apply)

Photo of soft sculpture, by Charlotte Russell

Teaching someone to drive can be a happy experience.

You can learn all the simple steps on how to teach a learner driver in a two hour workshop.

The next workshop in your area will be held:

**TIME & DATE:**
Monday 1st June
5:30pm – 7:30pm

**VENUE:**
The Armidale School- Hoskin Centre

**BOOK NOW ONE**
Ph: (02) 6652 1969
Freecall 1300 359 948

Helping learner drivers become safe drivers

Helping Learner Drivers Become Safer Drivers

A free 2 hour workshop provided by NSW Roads and Maritime Services.

The workshops provide practical advice about:
- The new changes to the Learner Driver Permit,
- The new Safer Drivers Course,
- How to use the Learner Driver Log Book,
- How to plan driving sessions,
- How to deal with difficulties that may arise during driving practice,
- The importance of giving the learner constructive feedback.

The workshops are designed to help learner driver supervisors plan the best on-road experience for learner drivers and include information about the current licence conditions for learner and provisional drivers, young driver safety issues and how risk driving.

Who should attend:
- Parents, friends or relatives who are/will be supervising drivers
- Learner drivers are welcome to attend if accompanied by their supervisor

The workshop will be presented by the Enterprise and Training Company (ETC) in partnership with Roads and Maritime Services (RMS).