Principal’s News

Christmas in July
The Armidale High School P&C have done it again! A fabulous night was had by all at the recent school fundraiser. With the festive theme, over 100 people got into the spirit of the occasion and enjoyed fine food, company and music, whilst raising funds to support the school.

A huge thank you to Raelene Dyall and the Year 10 Food Technology class who catered for the event and our wonderful school captains who assisted with serving. The food was delicious and in keeping with the Christmas theme.

Our P&C work tirelessly to support our wonderful school and these occasions would not be possible without the enthusiasm and dedication of this band of people. Special thanks to Jody Brash (the Xmas Elf), Fiona Xerox, Leigh McLennan, Tess Robinson and Geoff Thorne.

Information Evenings
It has been a very busy time with so many information sessions being conducted recently. Tuesday night saw a great turn out of parents and carers in attendance at the Year 10 into Year 11 information night. All students in Year 10 have been issued with a senior studies guide to help them make their selections for 2016. If you are a parent of a young person in Year 10, I would encourage you to take the time to read through this information and discuss the various options with your child. If you cannot locate a copy of this guide please contact the school and we will set one aside for you.

Andrew Curry organised a very productive information evening last night for parents of students who will soon be sitting for their HSC. There were a lot of useful tips offered for managing stress that is associated with the HSC. We often forget that the HSC can impact on families as well as individual students and it is useful to hear from people who are experiencing similar circumstances and challenges.

This session was expertly led by our counsellor, Julia Ramsay, and our wellbeing teacher, Fiona Kelly, and we hope to conduct similar sessions in the future.

Carolyn Lupton
Relieving Principal
Debating

Last Thursday and Friday Armidale High School debaters joined others from across the region for a series of workshops at Oxley High School in Tamworth. The workshops were conducted by experts from the Arts Unit in Sydney. Our students were also able to enjoy the Years 9/10 Regional Debating Finals. This was a very valuable skills-building opportunity for our students in years 7-10.

Textiles

In the Interior Design Unit of their Textiles class, the Year 10’s had to present a storyboard for a redesigned bedroom.

News from Science - Week 4

The Science faculty has had a very busy start to the term! We are very pleased to officially welcome Mr Tobie White who has been successful in his application for a permanent position at Armidale High School. We are very pleased that Tobie will be able to continue the great work he has already done with our students.

9CR had a very successful evening in the library presenting their individual science research projects. The students had designed, planned and carried out experiments, and then reviewed and presented their data. It was very impressive to see how thoughtful the students had been in both designing their experiments and reflecting on their experimental design. They have learnt incredibly
valuable skills that will be useful beyond even their school years.

National Science Week is coming up in Week 6 of this term. A variety of activities are planned throughout the faculty and with the students during their lessons. These will include Paper Plane competitions and constructing light microscopes. Watch this space for news about these activities.

**German Exchange**

Our German exchange students, their host families and friends kicked up their heels at a bush dance held last week in the old school hall. We were led by Louise Drielsma and the wonderful Waldorf Salad Band. Frances Tafra did a beautiful job on the decorations of wattle and other Australiana. Our visitors from the south-western town of Göppingen will host some of our Year 11 students for two months over the coming Christmas holidays. This is a wonderful opportunity for our Year 11 students who have chosen German as an elective since Year 8. It’s our community of parents who make this exchange possible by hosting and entertaining our guests over the almost two months they spend attending school in Armidale. We thank them all.

Jo Scotchmer
German teacher

**Armidale Little Athletics Club**

Free Jumping and Throwing Coaching Sessions
Each Sunday afternoon during Term 3
3pm at Harris Park

All Welcome

**Social Work in Schools**

Armidale High School has partnered with the University of New England’s School of Health through the Social Work in Schools (SWiS) program. We have been very fortunate to have Jocelyn Sullivan (a third year student) placed in our school to work with our dedicated wellbeing team. This partnership has been the result of collaboration with the Social Work Department at UNE and the development of their Social Workers in Schools (SWiS) program. The placement of students in schools for their professional experience is a relatively new initiative and is already showing great outcomes for students in our schools

Jocelyn reports the new environment to be exciting, but a steep learning curve. Jocelyn brings to the role several years of working in community services and vast experience in working with individuals and families. Jocelyn says “I’ve really enjoyed working with the Wellbeing team to develop ideas for mental health awareness, working in the class rooms and observing students interaction; and the interaction and learning I’ve done with such a diverse group of colleagues. I would strongly recommend this experience from a student’s perspective, and hope that Armidale High School benefits from my placement as much as I am.”

For further information on the SWiS program, please contact: Fiona Macfarlane at the University of New England - fiona.macfarlane@une.edu.au or Caz Lupton at Armidale High School – carolyn.lupton@det.nsw.edu.au
**Education Week**

This year’s Education Week theme was Local Heroes. There is certainly no shortage of local heroes in our school community. Armidale High School conducted an afternoon tea last Wed to recognise Education Week and the significant contribution of staff, students, parents and community members.

The category recipients this year were:
- Jody Brash: Outstanding contribution by a parent
- Kris Croft: Outstanding contribution by a staff member
- Georgie Cooper: Outstanding contribution by student
- Mandy Moore: Outstanding contribution by community member.

**Japanese Teaching Assistant**

"Farewell Mariko from Year 12" (at Tenkoo Restaurant)

We have been so lucky to have Mariko’s help with our Japanese classes over the past 3 months. The Year 12 Students have benefitted greatly from her help leading up to their HSC exams, particularly speaking! Unfortunately next week is her last week with us here at AHS. I would like to personally thank her for all she has done and wish her the best for the rest of her working holiday adventure around Australia.

**Mrs Moore (Japanese Teacher)**

Hi Everyone! It is almost the end of my stay in Armidale. Thank you for having me. I had lots of valuable experiences in AHS. Everything is very different to Japan and every day I discovered new things. I was also really impressed that the students study Japanese very hard and have a deep interest in Japan. This made me very happy. They taught me a lot of things. Though it was only a three month stay, I feel as if this is my home town. I greatly appreciate the teachers, students, my host families, and all the people I have met here.

Thank you, everyone! I will come back to Armidale someday!!

**Mariko Noguchi (Japanese Teaching Assistant)**

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**Mariko Noguchi (Japanese Teaching Assistant)**
Armidale High School Parent/Teacher Interviews
Thursday 27\textsuperscript{th} August and Tuesday 1\textsuperscript{st} September 2015

AHS Library
3.45pm-6.30pm
Booking on-line at www.sobs.com.au

1. Log onto www.sobs.com.au
2. Click on Parent/Teacher Interviews Bookings icon.
3. On left hand side click Staff/Parent Access.
4. Keyword Armidale then select Armidale High from list
5. Click Parent Access on the left hand side.
6. Enter your email address.
7. Enter name and contact number.
8. Enter student details.
10. A screen will bring up all your child’s teachers with available times.
    Select suitable available times. \textit{(scroll down for Tuesday)}
11. Print or email to yourself the designated times of interviews. Alternatively
    write them on the list below.

\textbf{1. Interviews are of 5 minutes duration. Bookings should be at least 10 minutes apart.}
\textbf{2. The online booking will be made available on Monday 17\textsuperscript{th} August and will close at 2pm Tuesday 1\textsuperscript{st} September 2015.}
\textbf{3. If you are unable to access the internet to make bookings please have your child see their teachers who will allocate a time and write this down or email parents. Alternatively contact your child’s Year Advisor on 67767466.}

If you have any concern regarding the booking process please contact Mr Tim Vaughan (Head Teacher Administration) on 67767466.
Please collect the Woolworths Earn and Learn stickers and support the Armidale High School Support Unit. Stickers can be handed into the top office.