



Upcoming Dates

3 December
Y7 2020 Orientation
Day

18 December
Last day of Term 4

28 January 2020
Staff Development
Day

29 January 2020
Y7,11 & 12 Resume

30 January 2020
Y8,9,10 Resume

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2020 School Leaders

NEXT P&C MEETING

Tuesday 25 February 2020

commencing at 6.00pm

in the School Library

All Welcome!

Principal's Report

Mark McConville



Great Achievements

There are so many great things that our students are doing, both in school and out of school. If your child has achieved something notable outside of school – please feel free to inform us – it is always great to know what our students are up to!! Here are just a few of our students' achievements that we are currently aware of:

Luke Young - Athletics

Year 12 student Luke Young competed at NSW All Schools Athletics on Sunday, 29 September 2019. Luke ran in the U19 Male 1500m, winning in a meet record time of 3:49.10 seconds. This record was previously held by Lachlan Chisholm in 1999 (20 years ago). Luke won the Henry Shield Medal for being the winner of the 17 plus 1500m.

Luke thanked THS for our support whilst he was a student. Now his focus is on being selected and competing at the World U20 Championships in Nairobi in July next year.



Nick Charlesworth – Futsal



Year 12 student Nick Charlesworth recently returned from Brisbane playing in the National Futsal Tournament.

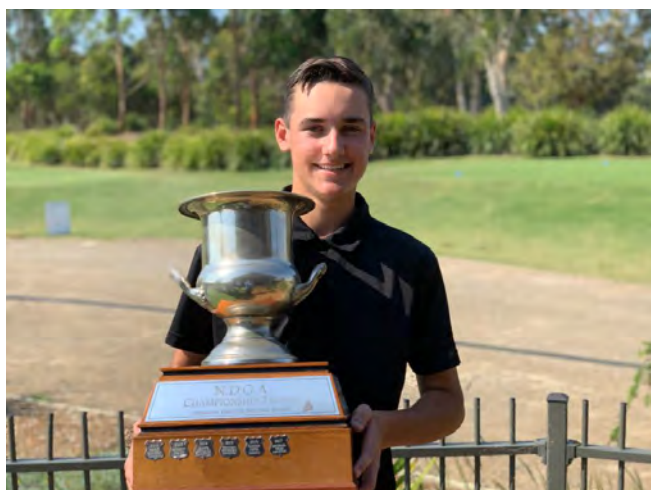
His team, U19's Northern NSW, beat every other team in the country and went on to win the Grand Final undefeated.

Nick scored 15 goals in the whole competition and was subsequently chosen to play in the Australian team that will be touring overseas in 2020.

Well done Nick! THS team will miss you.

Jake Riley – Golf

(includes a partial extract from the Newcastle Herald 18th November 2019)



Jake Riley is eyeing more open events after becoming likely the youngest ever Newcastle district champion at the age of just 14.

The Fishing Point local, a Year 8 student at Toronto High School, shot a one-under 71 at Pacific Dunes to beat a field of 90. In doing so, Riley also claimed the junior title as well as both champion of club champions crowns. Riley won the district title by four shots a month after taking out the Toronto club championship.

"I was pretty stoked with that," said Riley, who turned 14 in August. "It was good to get the club championship a couple of weeks ago, and to get that as the youngest and then this, it's pretty cool. Pacific Dunes is a really tough course so I just played sensible and smart, just plotted a way along and made a couple of birdies and it was just a solid day. My confidence from the club championship was boosted but I just tried to go in there to have a good day and play golf and see how it went, and it worked out well."

The record-breaking win continues "a pretty good year" for Riley, who also won the state junior title in his age group and the open Parish Cup Vardon event at Muree.

Jake Qualifies for the NSW Open

Last week saw him at Liverpool in a pre-qualifying event where he fired four under -68 finishing equal 3rd in a field of 60 to secure a start in the NSW Open held later that week. He became the second youngest in history to earn a place in this event. He shot 79, 80 on a tough course and overall he had an amazing week and experience.

This week sees him up at Coffs Harbour for the Jack Newton Junior Golf Bonville Champions Trophy after qualifying by winning the State Junior Title in his age group.

Congratulations and well done Jake!

HSC is now Over for 2019!

Congratulations to our students who have now completed their Higher School Certificate. It is a significant milestone in a young person's life and indeed their family's life. We are looking forward to the release of results and catching up at our Year 12 Results Breakfast BBQ being held on Tuesday 17th December. Already, many of our students have received early offers into university based on their school based results. Many others will be heading into apprenticeships, traineeships and other employment. Whatever pathway our students take, one thing that I do know, is that most importantly, our graduating class are all wonderful young people. This is the greatest achievement of all.

The formal was a wonderful event held at 'Harbourview Function Centre' at Honeysuckle. It was a great night and a fitting end to 13 years of study. Thanks to Mrs Jenkins as the Year Advisor who supported this group of students and organised the event.

New Staff for 2020

Toronto High School is currently in the middle of multiple recruitment actions. We are filling a number of positions for 2020 including new permanent HSIE, Music and generalist teachers. We are also employing up to four Learning Assistant Support Teachers that will be focusing on literacy and numeracy. All of these positions will be announced at the beginning of the 2020 school year.

During Term 4 there has already been a number of staffing positions that have been filled for commencement in 2020. The new staff members are:

- April Tannock has been appointed as an English teacher. April transferred from Maitland Grossman High School.
- Sophie Proctor has been appointed as a HSIE teacher. Sophie is a scholarship holder and will be in her second year of teaching. She has already been teaching with us for 12 months 'above establishment'.
- Emily Marshal has been appointed as the new ED class teacher. Emily is joining us on transfer from Tamworth HS where she has been teaching the ED class for the last 4 years.

Andrew Carlson is taking 12 months leave without pay from his Head Teacher English role. He has accepted a 12 month temporary teaching contract at Toronto High.....so he is still with us! April Tannock has been appointed Relieving Head Teacher English for 2020.

NAPLAN 2019

The school NAPLAN results for 2019 are very pleasing. We are consistently seeing strong growth from our students across a range of domains.

The NAPLAN test is one of the tools that teachers and the school use to identify the literacy and numeracy interventions implemented at Toronto High School. Often the results of NAPLAN are misused by the media and not understood by the general community. At Toronto High School, we have all of our students sit the assessments (unless their parents wish them to be exempted). This means that in our overall results we have students from support classes, learning difficulties classes and our mainstream classes combining to provide a 'school result'. When that school result is directly measured against other schools; you may not be making accurate comparisons – for example – do they have a support unit in their school for students with an intellectual disability?

The Toronto High School scaled scores and growth are both very strong results. In fact, when further analysis is done of certain cohorts, our results are outstanding.

I will provide further data and information regarding the school's results in the next newsletter.

General NAPLAN Information:

Your child's report will show his or her results in comparison with all other students from the same year group in Australia who sat the tests and will include:

- the national average
- the range for the middle 60 per cent of students
- whether your child has achieved the national minimum standards

An important feature of the national assessments is that your child's achievement in literacy and numeracy is measured against common national assessment scales that continue from Year 3 through to Year 9. This means that as your child advances through school and has these assessments every second year, you will be able to monitor your child's progress in literacy and numeracy.

Another important feature of the report is how the achievement of the national minimum standard is shown. The report shows the national minimum standard as a full band on the scale. For example, the national minimum standard for Year 7 is Band 5. If your child's result is in this band, then he or she has typically demonstrated the basic elements of literacy and numeracy needed to participate in school in Year 7. If your child's result is in the bottom band for the year level, he or she has not achieved the basic skills of literacy and numeracy for that year and needs focused intervention and additional support to help achieve the skills required to fully participate in schooling.

If you would like further general information about the new national literacy and numeracy assessments, please visit http://www.naplan.edu.au/home_page.html or contact your child's Year Advisor.

Presentation Evenings

Toronto High School will be conducting the Awards Presentation Ceremony in Term 1 2020. This is our major award ceremony to acknowledge the top performing students from 2019. We moved the presentation ceremony a few years ago to the new time. It allows the school to name the Year 12 Dux based on their ATAR results. Plus it is a very positive way to start the year!

There will be Year Advisor Assemblies for students on Tuesday 17th December. It is at these assemblies that students will receive their yearly reports and other awards.

Year 7 2020 Information Night and Release of Classes

The Year 7 2020 Information Evening was held on Wednesday 27th November in the school hall. This evening was for parents of Year 7 2020 students and their children to be informed of the latest information and to discover their classes for next year.

Year 7 2020 will have the following curriculum structure:

- Humanities Class (Integrated English, Geography and History).
- 'Sciences' Class (Integrated Maths, PDHPE and Science) or Teamed Maths and Science classes.
- Integrated Sport (not a traditional sport afternoon. Sport occurs with the class PDHPE / 'Sciences' teacher as a 'normal' lesson).

Yearly Exams and PAT Testing

All students in Years 7 – 10 have just completed standardised testing in literacy and numeracy (PAT tests) as well as their yearly examinations. These standardised tests allow the school to track student progress or growth over a 12 month period. If students are not progressing at an appropriate rate, we can identify suitable teaching structures and interventions that can be implemented in order to address the students'

specific issue. It is just another way in which Toronto High School is developing students' literacy and numeracy skills base.

BYOD

Toronto High School is promoting 'Bring Your Own Device' (BYOD). Students will be encouraged to bring laptops/tablets/devices to use in the classroom. The emphasis will be on Year 7 and Year 8 2020 to participate in the BYOD program. However, I have received queries from families with students in other year groups – and the answer is yes! BYOD will be running across the school, it is just that we will be focussing on Year 7 & Year 8 in 2020. So if your child wishes to bring a laptop or similar approved device to school for use in the classroom, they can! In fact they can now!

Attendance of Students in Term 4, 2019

Students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 are required to attend school until Wednesday 18th December. School reports will be issued on Tuesday 17th December. Students must be in attendance all day if they wish to receive their report. Uncollected reports will be available from the office from Wednesday 18th December.

First Day for Students 2020

Staff will return to school on Tuesday 28th January 2020 for a Staff Development Day.

Students in **Year 7,11,12** will return to school on **Wednesday 29th January.**

Students in **Years 8,9,10** will return to school on **Thursday 30th January.**

Student Assistance Scheme

Parents experiencing financial difficulty in meeting school expenses including subject specific fees and uniforms are invited to confidentially contact me to discuss the process. A limited amount of funds is supplied by the Government for needy families to assist with educational expenses. I encourage parents to seek this assistance. Please contact Mrs Anderson (Head Teacher Wellbeing).

Merry Christmas!

I'm taking two weeks long service leave during Term 4. I would like to thank Mr Pesle who will be the Relieving Principal while I'm away. Mrs Anderson will be the Relieving Deputy Principal with Mrs Little relieving as the Head Teacher Wellbeing.

The year has gone quickly once again. I have really enjoyed 2019 working with the students, families and staff at Toronto High School. Leading and working in a local comprehensive high school is a pleasure and an honour. You feel that you make a difference in the lives of others. I'm looking forward to returning in 2020 with a number of ideas to keep driving the school forward and to continually build on the great reputation in the local community and further afield that the school enjoys.

I would like to wish students, staff and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please enjoy the festive season with your family and friends. See you in 2020!

Mr. Mark McConville
Principal

Deputy Principal's Report – Yrs 8,10 & 12

Andrew Pesle



Congratulations Year 12

The HSC Examinations are well and truly over. This year's Year 12 have been an outstanding cohort of students. Feedback from the NESA Presiding Officers (examination supervisors) is that the students were the best they have experienced in terms of their respect shown to staff and their caring nature towards helping each other out through what is an extremely stressful time for all students.

Our departing Year 12 students are reminded that they can still access our Careers and Transition team if they need assistance, guidance or support when looking at post school options. The Toronto High School Careers and Transition team consists of:

Trevor Connell – Careers Adviser

Rhonda Finlay – Aboriginal Education Careers and Transition

Peter Chapman – Careers and Transition Support

All departing Year 12 students are invited to the school for a BBQ breakfast on the morning of the HSC Results Publication on Tuesday 17th December.

Students Not Returning to Year 11

If students are not returning to Year 11 and have found full time employment they need to provide a letter from their employer and their parent, detailing that more than 24 hours of work per week is being offered. The student will then be able to sign out at the end of Year 10. This is also the case if they have enrolled in fulltime TAFE. They will need to supply the school with a copy of the course enrolment indicating it is a full time pattern of study.

It is compulsory that Year 10 students attend school up to the end of the year. Students who do not attend classes will be having a conversation with the Deputy Principal about their educational pathway and the possibility of utilising other options for next year.

Examinations

Yearly Examinations are now complete and students should be starting to receive their results. It is important for students to discuss their results with their teachers and ask questions so they learn from the experience. Feedback is an important part of the assessment process. Teachers should address where students did well and what they need to improve on so they can better their results in the future.

Year 7-10 Academic Reports

All students in Year 7-10 will receive their academic report on the last Tuesday of Term, Tuesday 17th December.

End of Year Events

The Year 7 (2020) Parent Information Night and the annual Sports Presentation are just some of the upcoming scheduled events. Be sure to check the school website calendar for dates and details of upcoming events.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish our entire school community an enjoyable Christmas break.

Deputy Principal's Report – Yrs 7, 9 & 11

Greg Morgan



It is now getting towards the end of the year and the school is in exam and report mode.

The kids are greatly excited. The Staff are all putting in extra hours to meet all the deadlines so please be nice to them.

Despite what the students say and think, there will be school work up until the last day of term which is Wednesday 18th of December. All normal school rules and routines still operate.

It is compulsory that all students in Years 7 to 11 attend School up to the end of the year.

If your child has completed Year 10 and found full time employment then they need a letter from the employer and parent detailing that more than 24 hours of work per week is involved. This is also the case if they have enrolled in fulltime TAFE, they will need to supply the school with a copy of the course enrolment indicating it is a full time pattern of study.

Year 12 2019, have now completed their HSC exams and the many students who drop in to say hello indicate that they were happy with the exams and they thought they did well. Many are aiming for University courses and are looking out for when the marks come out. All of the students are looking forward to a well-earned holiday before they officially become grownups and start their next stage of life. Please stay safe during schoolies.

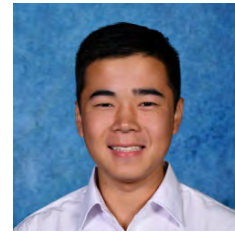
If any student misses an exam please fill out the student appeal form available from the DP's or photocopy office. These forms need to be completed on the first day back or your appeal may not be upheld. Include medical certificates or statutory declarations as necessary.

2020 PREFECTS

Nakita Yates
Captain



Erick Kang
Captain



Lachlan Horn
Vice Captain



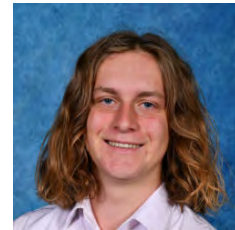
Cody Moran
Vice Captain



Ashleigh Collette
Senior Prefect



Callum Prescott
Senior Prefect



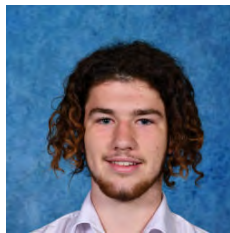
Ella Bradley
Prefect



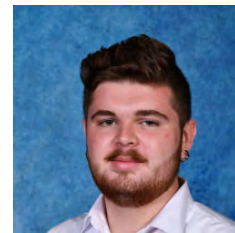
Madison Graham
Prefect



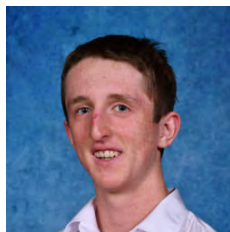
Ty Lewis
Prefect



Jack Walpole
Prefect



Nicholas White
Prefect



Amber Winsor
Prefect



Creative and Performing Arts News

The end of Term 3 finished with a huge celebration acknowledging the finalisation of major projects and performances. Congratulations to all students and CAPA staff. The CAPA Showcase was a wonderful success with parents and caregivers gathered to celebrate the Visual Arts, Music, Drama and Dance students efforts. The response was amazing with positive feedback on the talent we have here at THS. The CAPA staff would like to acknowledge the hard work of their HSC students and wish them the very best for the future. Congratulations to Adelle McConville who was nominated for HSC DANCE—Callback and Elyssa Whittaker for HSC Visual Arts—Art Express. Term 4 is an exciting time for the CAPA department with MADD night organisation well on its way. Staff and students are busy working on performances, auditions for soloists and finalising artworks.

CALL BACK NOMINATION

Congratulations Adelle McConville

Congratulations to Year 12 Dance student, Adelle, who has been nominated for Callback! This is a presentation of exemplary NSW Dancers from the 2019 Dance HSC Practical Examinations. Adelle has been nominated for Performance, with a dance choreographed by Ms Milwright and marked on Adelle's outstanding technique, ability and performance quality. Well done, Adelle!



ART EXPRESS NOMINATION



Newcastle - Congratulations

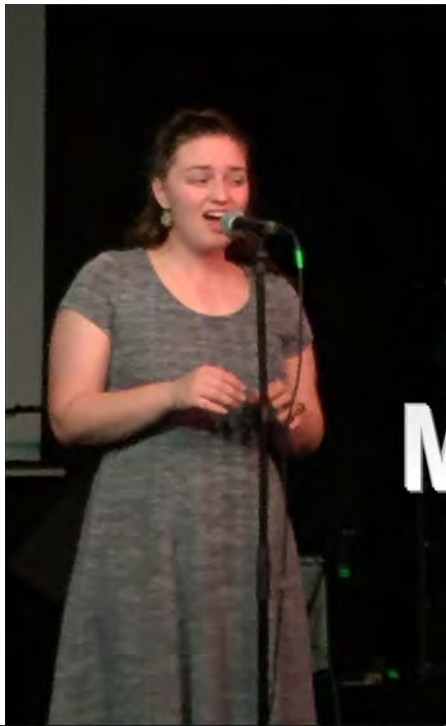
Elyssa Whittaker

'NEWCASTLE' is a subjective and structural investigation of my hometown. A coastal city where the sea meets the shore. The richness of the industrial manmade world in my community is reflected in this Body of Work. The strong lines and saturated colours remind us of a thriving industry. The work reflects varying aspects of the 'Steel City' - The Newcastle Steelworks 'BHP' that was highly influential in the State's economy and closed exactly 20 years ago in 1999. The photographs were taken in Carrington, Kooragang Island and Newcastle harbour. Photographers that influenced my imagery are Ansel Adams, Wolfgang Sievers and the world of industrial photography.

HSC CAPA SHOWCASE



VISUAL ARTS HIGHLIGHTS



NSW State Dance Festival



Ms Milwright's Dance Ensemble was successful in gaining a place in this year's NSW State Dance Festival held at the Seymour Centre in Sydney. Over 1500 schools audition for a place in this prestigious show, with Toronto High School's item, "Redemption" catching the eye of the judges.

The ensemble of 14 dancers, from Years 7 to 11, along with Ms Milwright and Mrs Fotheringham, travelled to Sydney for a day of rehearsals (and shopping!) before the evening performance. The dance was well received by the capacity audience, and will next be performing at Toronto High School's MADD Night later in Term 4.



Australian Ballet Repertoire Workshop



Congratulations to Year 10 Dance student, Dayna Manderson, who was successfully nominated by Ms Milwright to attend the Australian Ballet Repertoire Workshop. This workshop was held at the Village Academy of Music and Performing Arts in Sydney on Tuesday 17th September. Dayna used her high level of technical skill and performance quality to engage in a range of ballet activities including choreographic tasks and learning sections from the Australian Ballet's repertoire.

VOCAL ENSEMBLE VISITS

TORONTO & BIRABAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

On Friday 1st November and Friday 8th November the Vocal Ensemble visited two local primary schools: Toronto Public and Biraban Public. After 3 terms of preparing repertoire, we were able to present a short concert of 6 songs representing 4 decades of popular music. From Queen in the 1970's to Little Mix in 2010's we serenaded our two feeder primary schools with a vision of what they can look forward to when they join us at Toronto High. This was a special treat for two of our members who are recent graduates of each school. And we even got to do a little exercise, as well as performing, walking to and from both schools – on hot days! At Biraban we were privileged to join with their weekly assembly and celebrate the students' achievements as well as being entertained by Year 3 singing the 80's classic "Wake Me Up Before You Go Go" by Wham. Both schools were attentive and appreciative audiences making our efforts all the more enjoyable. Make sure you don't miss our performance at MADD Night on Wednesday 4th December. We will be looking forward to entertaining you!

Nicole Charlesworth – Aboriginal Education Officer



The Wollotuka Institute at The University of Newcastle presented the **iBelieve** Program to our Year 7 and 8 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander girls on the 1st and 4th November. This program is culturally designed to empower the students to make educated choices about their future aspirations and pathways.

Students engage with culturally rich knowledge and practical activities which helps to shape their unique identities and develop their personal skills to deal with challenges. Essentially **iBelieve** reinforces the importance of schooling and motivates students to set high standards and realistic goals for themselves.

The students were very engaged with the interactive iBelieve Program and look forward to a follow up session before the end of the year.

Year 8 Leap Visual Art – Exploring the potential of Still Lifes through a photographic medium

A warm hello to the community that surrounds and supports Toronto High school, including all teachers, staff, volunteers, students, parents, carers, guardians and members of the broader community. My name is Miss Emily Walder, I am a final year Master of Teaching student from the University of Newcastle, and am about to embark on my journey as a Secondary Visual Art Teacher once I complete my final placement here at Toronto High School.

Over the past five weeks I have had the absolute pleasure of teaching a range of classes here at Toronto High. During this time, I have been astounded by the standard of the work that students have created and have also thoroughly enjoyed the positive classroom culture within the school.

I wanted to take this opportunity to share my experience in finer detail, by showcasing the Year 8 Leap Visual Art program that I have designed and taught during my time at Toronto High.

This unit was developed to explore the Still Life genre of artmaking in a contemporary and engaging way, using photography as our focus medium. The goal was to provide students with a hands-on learning experience that ignited both their senses and imagination.

Students grounded their understanding of the Still Life subject by viewing the history of the genre – spanning between Ancient Egyptian Art all the way to Contemporary Art. We were then able to position our own artmaking practices in a broader historical context.

We have sketched and photographed traditional Still Life materials (vases, fruit, vegetables, flowers and textiles) as well as contemporary Still Life subject matter such as discarded rubbish and remnants left after a class morning tea. To capture our photographs, we used digital devices in a proactive and productive way – I was very impressed with the level of maturity displayed when devices were used during the practical activities.

I'm sure most students would agree that the highlight of this unit would have been the beautifully curated morning tea that we shared together, consisting of luscious fresh fruit, vegetables, flowers and decorative domestic objects.





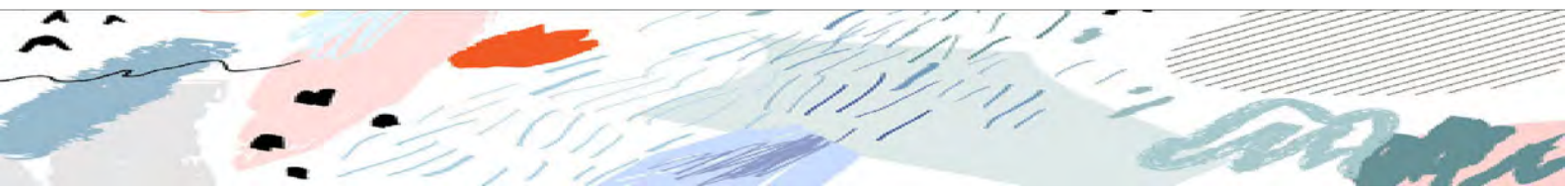
Throughout this task we discussed how fresh fruit, vegetables and flowers symbolise beauty, health, nature and life, and how this meaning could transform once the food had been eaten. Viewing and photographing the remaining apple cores and scraps allowed us to create artworks that express ideas of decay, memory, desire and ephemerality. Students were encouraged to 'think outside the box' by combining a range of fabric and experimental materials to create complex photographic artworks that reinterpret traditional Still Life artworks.

The final photographs that students captured exhibited sophisticated aesthetic qualities with a strong attention to colour relationships, spatial awareness and compositional elements. It has been wonderfully rewarding seeing the unique and diverse interpretations of this task.



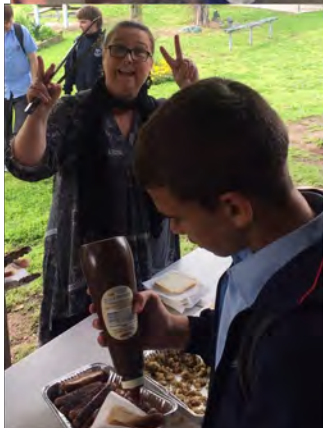
Thank you, Toronto High School, for this fabulously enriching experience and thank you to the CAPA faculty who have so generously shared their knowledge and resources over the past five weeks. A special thank you to Nina Howlett for her support and mentoring as my supervising teacher. I wish all of the wonderful students whom I have taught during my placement the very best as they continue their journey from here onwards – I will miss you all!

Miss Walder



PLP BBQ

Our Aboriginal students had a wonderful BBQ with their teacher mentors on Thursday 19th September. Thank-you to the Aboriginal Education Team.



The Wellbeing Team

UPDATES ON OUR LATEST PROJECTS

R U OK? DAY

Mental Health lessons for over 800 students were designed and coordinated by the Wellbeing Team for R U OK DAY including the signs and symptoms to look for when friends aren't OK, how to talk to friends about how they are travelling and how and where to seek help. Students also designed and created their own feather which reflect individuality and the importance of celebrating our differences.



MENTAL HEALTH ROCKS!

The Toronto High School Wellbeing Team have linked with Toronto Private Hospital to celebrate the Mental Health Rocks! Program. The project involved THS students creating rocks depicting positive affirmations and messages, with the purpose of placing them permanently in the garden of the hospital to brighten the day of patients during their stay at hospital.

Well done to our Year 8 students who represented THS- Kloie Thorpe, Blair Southam, Lily Lyons and Dylan Salter.

As a thank you, Toronto Private hospital have pledged to donate the proceeds from the sale of their "See Me Art Show" mental health art calendars to be used for positive student mental health initiatives at THS. The calendars depict art created by patients at the hospital which captures their lived experiences of mental health issues.

If you would like to support this initiative, the calendars are \$5 each and are available for purchase from the front office at the school.



The Wellbeing Team

UPDATES ON OUR LATEST PROJECTS

STAFF WELLBEING

This semester, one of the focuses of the Wellbeing Team was the wellbeing of the amazing staff at Toronto High School. On R U OK Day, staff were treated to a coffee from the Retro Kombi Coffee Van. All of our staff members received a personalised thank you note written by students, coordinated by the Wellbeing Team.



PARENT WORKSHOPS

Our first digital parent workshop was held this term and focused on the concept of Digital Wellbeing. Psychologist Jocelyn Brewer provided practical strategies for parenting in the digital age and answered questions about video games, social media and digital cultures. Thanks to everyone who attended, we received fantastic feedback from the event. Also, a big thanks to Headspace Newcastle for their support!

Our second parent workshop for 2019 will be held on Tuesday the 10th December at 6pm in the library, and will focus on digital safety. This session will include a presentation by THINKUKNOW. ThinkUKnow is a partnership between the Australian Federal Police, Commonwealth Bank, Microsoft and Datacom and delivered in partnership with all State and Territory police and Neighbourhood Watch Australasia.

The cyber safety presentations sensitively cover a range of topics including sexting, cyber bullying, online child exploitation, online privacy, and importantly what to do when something goes wrong. All parents and carers in the Westlake Macquarie area are invited to attend. Please RSVP via the Facebook event.



The Wellbeing Team

UPDATES ON OUR LATEST PROJECTS

FORMAL WEAR EVENT

The THS Wellbeing Team coordinated another successful Formal Wear Event in 2020. Over 500 dresses, shoes, ties, suits and accessories were donated to the school. We are proud to have helped so many young people across the Lake Macquarie West area by providing free formal wear so students can create memories without the financial stress which is often attached to school formals. .



WHO ARE WE?

The Wellbeing Team is a diverse, passionate and dedicated team of staff members at Toronto High who operate from the Wellbeing Room- across from E10. The team consists of:

- Mrs Anderson- Head Teacher of Wellbeing
- Maddy Smith- Student Support Officer
- Jo Wickham- School Counsellor
- Rebecca Moore- School Counsellor
- Jacob Dwyer- School Chaplain
- Ms Crawford- Year 7 Adviser
- Mrs Rowland- Year 8 Adviser
- Mr Remington- Year 9 Adviser
- Mrs Little- Year 10 Adviser
- Mr Banks- Year 11 Adviser
- Mrs Jenkins- Year 12 Adviser
- Mrs Halliwell- Girls Adviser
- Mr Battle- Boys Adviser



On behalf of the THS Wellbeing Team, I would like to wish all of our students and families a Merry Christmas and happy and safe New Year.

-Lauren Anderson, Head Teacher Wellbeing

Merry Xmas

The Wellbeing Team

SNAP SHOTS FROM OUR LATEST PROJECTS



From the Career Advisers Desk

Each Monday morning a comprehensive list of jobs are emailed to students in Year's 10 - 12 via the DET Portal, all these students have access to these emails. There are a lot of Apprenticeships and Traineeships which may suit students in Year's 10 - 12. If your child is looking for permanent work in the Hunter area this a great place to start. Searching through these jobs also gives students an idea of what jobs are available on completion of school so they can better plan their future. This knowledge may also assist with selecting subjects to study whilst at school.

I also use the DET Portal for local fulltime and casual work as well as training programs, therefore, encourage your child to have a look on a regular basis to keep up to date.

Trevor Connell

Toronto High School Careers Adviser

LifeLauncher is a new program provided free from the NSW Government designed to assist students in finding the best career for them. Go to www.lifelauncher.nsw.gov.au to register and create a profile.



The graphic features a teal background with a white NSW Government logo at the top left. Below the logo is a small white box with the text 'Beta release'. The main title 'LifeLauncher' is in large white font, followed by a horizontal line. Below the line is the text 'Pin careers, courses and industries, refine and explore your interests.' and 'All in one place.' in white. At the bottom, there is a white text block describing the program.

LifeLauncher

NSW
GOVERNMENT

Beta release

LifeLauncher

Pin careers, courses and industries,
refine and explore your interests.

All in one place.

LifeLauncher, developed by the NSW Government, offers young people the largest range of career and course options in one place. If your students are unsure of their next steps from school, this web-based tool can help them to define their goals and career opportunities, and the tertiary courses to help them get there.

ADMINISTRATION

Statements

If you receive a statement via school bytes with an unallocated credits total and you wish to apply that credit to a specific subject fee or excursion, then please contact the school via email, phone or a note with your student. We can then apply the credit to your student's fees.

We encourage all parents to supply an email address for the fast and efficient distribution of information – USE CHANGE OF DETAILS FORM IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Did You Know

THS Website has a Parent Hub where you can find

- Permission notes and information for all excursions that are held
- Make a Payment instructions
- Opal Card info
- Uniform Shop information
- Assessment and reporting
- Fees
- Student & Parent portal
- Absence notes
- Canteen Menu and ordering
- And lots more

Have you changed address, family situation or phone number? If so please use Change of Details form in this newsletter

Student Absences

When your child is absent please advise the school as soon as possible. All absences need to be explained within 7 days or they will be marked as unjustified. Send the student's name, date/s and reason for absence by:

- ❖ A note
- ❖ Completing details on the app
- ❖ Email: toronto-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
- ❖ Phone: 02 4959 1788

When your child is late:

Phone the office directly or have your child bring a note to the student counter on arrival. Please note all absences are displayed on student reports, both explained and unexplained. It is imperative that students arriving late for school come to the office to sign in, otherwise they will be recorded as an unauthorised absence for the day.

REMINDER TO PARENTS TO NOTIFY THE SCHOOL ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH

We welcome information from parents about your child's health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child's health care needs change or if a new health condition develops.

Information about allergies, medical conditions such as Asthma and Diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the Principal. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child's health and wellbeing.

Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details, or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts. There is a Change of Details Form included in this newsletter.

We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your son's or daughter's health needs or as otherwise required by law.

There are several ways to make payments to the school for fees and excursions

1. **THS office** – 7.45am – 2.30pm
2. **Phoning** the office between 7.45am – 2.30pm – payment by card.
3. THS **website** www.toronto-h.schools.nsw.gov.au

MAKE A PAYMENT on top banner of the home page. Please ensure that the correct reference is used (so administration staff can identify what the payment is for). As it can take up to 3 days for the school to receive notification of the payment from Westpac, as soon as you receive your emailed receipt, **please email this directly to the school.** Alternatively, phone the school and advise your payment details. This is very important where there is a “cut off” date or limited numbers for an excursion.

4. THS **App** – Log into Parent Portal and follow the prompts.

NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE TO STUDENT DETAILS

DATE / / 20.....

Student Name: _____ Student Year: _____

Student Name: _____ Student Year: _____

Student Name: _____ Student Year: _____

PLEASE ONLY FILL IN THE DETAILS THAT HAVE CHANGED **FAMILY DETAILS**

Home address:

.....

(Street No.) (Street Name)

.....

(Suburb) (Post Code)

Name for correspondence:

.....

Address for correspondence:

.....

(Street No.) (Street Name)

.....

(Suburb) (Post Code)

Home Telephone number:

Mother's mobile number: Mother's work number:

Father's mobile number: Father's work number:

Best family email address for statements and newsletters:

.....

Other changed details (if any):

.....

OTHER PARENT NOT RESIDING WITH THE STUDENT *Please provide relevant Court Orders*

Name

.....

Address:.....

Telephone.....

PTO

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Add or amend an Emergency Contact

(1) Name:

Daytime telephone number:

Mobile telephone number:.....

Relationship to family:

(2) Name:

Daytime telephone number:

Mobile telephone number:.....

Relationship to family:
.....

(3) Name:

Daytime telephone number:

Mobile telephone number:.....

Relationship to family:
.....

REMOVE AN EMERGENCY CONTACT:

(1) Name:

(2) Name:

ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

.....
.....

SIGNED: DATE/...../20.....

OFFICE USE ONLY

ERN

EBS STUDENT

EBS STATEMENT

CAREERS Yrs 10,11,12- EMAIL

UNIFORM REPORT NOVEMBER 2019

Leo Hudson – Uniform Co-Ordinator

Students and parents alike must be recognised for the great effort that has been made to ensure correct uniform is worn daily and that students comply with WH&S requirements for footwear in all Practical areas of the school. Data collected from our SENTRAL computer system reflects a pleasing percentage of our school's population has never been out of uniform. These students are regularly recognised at school assemblies and we have organised pizza lunches to reward some of them.

Toronto High School continues to work with and support all students with uniform needs, providing short term passes, replacement uniform etc. When our student body is on assembly, their appearance is most acceptable and satisfies our desire to have all students correctly attired according to our uniform policy.

We ask students and parents to be aware of the following:

- Shoes must be a **substantial, fully enclosed all black, all leather shoe, with leather tongue (WH&S requirements)**. No high boots such as **Doc Martens** are allowed nor are black shoes with nylon mesh tops or with coloured logos.
- All pieces of our uniform require **PLAIN** colours, without logos, patterns and printing. This includes socks.
- Our uniform is **UNIFORM** - one form, as set by Toronto High School and not for personal interpretation.
- **Stretch** track pants, tights or other track pants are not to be worn. They have never been a part of our uniform. A conforming track suit is available at the uniform shop for wear during PE lessons or for Year 9 and 10 on their Tuesday Sports Day.
- **Thongs, sandals and scuffs** (ie not fully enclosed footwear) will not be accepted at any time (WH&S), and students will be placed outside the relevant Deputy's office for safety reasons. Work will be provided for students, for the day. The school will attempt to contact parents to bring in suitable footwear and/or seniors may be allowed home to collect suitable enclosed footwear.
- **Large, dangling or dangerous jewellery** of any sort (WH&S), will not be tolerated. Potentially it could pose a safety threat to the student who is wearing it or to other people. Students will be asked to remove such jewellery and not to wear it again.
- Extremely **short** shorts and **unbuttoned shirts and blouses** are not part of our policy and reflect upon students' modesty and/or lack thereof.
- **Boys' shorts are not to be rolled up.** A plain school grey pant is the requirement of our policy not the "washed out grey" surf short.
- **Multi-coloured undershirts**, are not part of our uniform. A white non-visible undershirt is acceptable. **Hoodies are NOT to be worn. They are not part of our uniform.**
- Years 9 and 10 only wear the red and blue sports uniform on **Tuesdays and during PE lessons** only. Years 7 and 8 wear the red and blue sports uniform during **PE lessons only. The red and blue sports uniform is not to be worn as an alternative to the blue and grey formal uniform in hot weather.**
- A parental note to explain Out of Uniform items, should be provided for every occasion. This note should include the student's full name, Roll Class and the item of uniform that is unavailable. The note should be given to the Roll Teacher during Roll Call, who will then place it in the Uniform Box. In response to this parental note, a Purple Uniform Pass may be issued for a period of time by the Uniform Co-ordinator.

As we are approaching the end of another year I ask that when you purchase new or replacement items of uniform please keep in mind the above information.

Toronto High School seeks to skill students in many areas including life after school. We recognise the fact, that many workplaces now expect a uniform to be worn. Maybe students will not always agree with our uniform demands at school, but must learn to accept them and to comply with these expectations when they join the workforce.

Our aim, is to promote the proud wearing of our uniform, to reinforce and maintain a strong feeling of self pride and the very worthy reputation of Toronto High School.

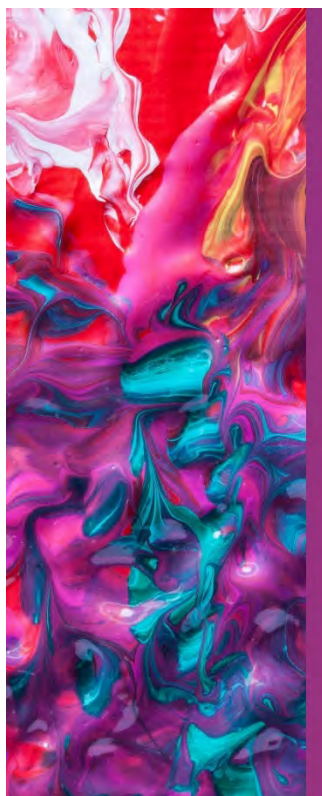
As always, families are reminded to contact the school if there exist any financial issues that prevent students from being fully equipped with our uniform. Because the uniform shop operates within the school's grounds, we are able to always access replacement items of uniform to ensure no child is disadvantaged.

EXAMPLES OF ACCEPTABLE SHOES



EXAMPLES OF SHOES WHICH ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE





the School Locker

UNIFORM SHOP CHANGES TO OPENING TIMES T4 2019 AND T1 2020

Y7 Parent Information Evening
Wednesday 27 Nov
12:00pm - 8.00pm

Y7 Orientation Day
Tuesday 3 Dec
8:00am - 11:00am

OPEN LAST WEEK OF SCHOOL HOLIDAYS WITH EXTENDED HOURS -

MONDAY 20 JAN 9-5PM
WEDNESDAY 22 JAN 12-8PM
FRIDAY 26 JAN 9-5PM

Closed Monday January 27 2020
Australia Day public holiday.

Uniforms are available to purchase online at
<https://theschoollocker.com.au/schools/toronto-high-school>

Koori Netball Tournament

The T-Birds represented Toronto High School at the Koori Netball Tournament at Charlestown in October. The girls played hard and there was some very tough competition. They played six games on Saturday in the extreme heat and gale force winds and three games on Sunday. Accompanying staff were proud of the way the girls represented the school. The girls discussed getting a uniform that has Aboriginal design for next year and ways they could raise the funds to achieve this.



Westlakes Zone Netball Gala Day



Our THS U15 Girls Netball Team played at the Westlake's Zone Netball Gala Day in Cardiff on the 1st November. The competition included schools in the Westlakes area- Lake Macquarie, Cardiff, West Wallsend, Morisset and Glendale. The girls faced off against Lake Macquarie in their first game, playing strong and winning 41- 2. They continued to play strong winning their next two games against Glendale and Morisset. Their fourth game against Cardiff was tough, however, the girls supported each other and remained positive throughout the game. Unfortunately, the girls were defeated in this game. Their last game was against West Wallsend and they were able to finish just as strong as they started, winning 27-0. The team will be progressing on to the Regional Open Netball KO day in a few weeks. Shout out to the super referee Ciara Ryan who did an amazing job for THS.

Jumpstart

This year at THS we have been running the Jumpstart program which is an initiative of the NSW Department of Education. It is a year-long project that gives students a deep dive into different vocational areas whilst still attending normal classes. So far we have done small business, graphic design, construction and now we are doing hospitality.

JUMPSTART students were extremely busy on Wednesday 11th Sept when they held a Juice and Smoothie bar during lunch. The skills that they have learned over the past 2 terms helped them work together as a team and produce some yummy drinks. Well done!!!



Luna Park Excursion

Years 8 and 10 Science travelled to Luna Park, Sydney on the 6th and 20th of September, respectively. Students were able to experience the fundamental forces of motion through various rides. The Drop allowed students to experience free fall motion while the Tornado and Rotor allowed the students to experience centrifugal force. All students and teachers had a wonderful day managing to make it back without losing their bellies. In true form all students upheld the Toronto High School standards and 'rose to their oars'.



Exploring Early Childhood

As part of the Year 11 Exploring Childhood Course students study Child Growth and Development. They researched stages of development and constructed a Busy/Quiet Book suitable to their chosen age of development. Take a look at their excellent work.



Shae-Lee McDonald & Bailey Ackling Beecham

Year 12 students Shae-Lee and Bailey perform in the Hunter Drama Production - Into the Woods Jr.



"Be careful what you wish for as Stephen Sondheim's and James Lapine's cockeyed fairy tale comes to life in this adaptation of their groundbreaking, Tony Award-winning musical. Into the Woods JR. features all of your favourite characters – Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack (and his beanstalk) and the Witch in this lyrically rich retelling of classic Brothers Grimm fables.

Tickets on sale now at Ticketek

Fri 13th, Sat 14th, Sun 15th
December



Engineers Without Borders

Students of the Engineers Without Borders from University of Technology Sydney ran a free program at our school which aims to raise awareness of engineering and encourage STEM learning amongst high school students.

The program has been a part of EWB's national focus on engineering education for a number of years, and discusses real world issues and engineering solutions. The three modules that were delivered include:

Floating houses- focuses on civil engineering and the application of buoyancy laws in order to construct a simulation model for the floating houses.

Renewable Energy- focuses on electrical and renewable engineering as students design and create a simulation wind turbine that maximises the generation of energy.

Prosthetic Limb- focusing on biomedical engineering this module challenges students to create a prosthetic hand under time and resource limitations.

Additionally, this year, the program also partnered with UTS Women in Engineering, which will see a female speaker present their journey into engineering and experiences at university. The workshops were extremely well received by our Year 10 and 12 students who were able to gain a great insight into engineering concepts and what to expect from university.

Well done to all involved.



LEAP Youth Change Agents

Young minds set to the challenge of developing social enterprise ideas for a better future.

Students from LEAP participated in a 2 day program run by Youth Change Agents to generate a business enterprise idea with positive social outcomes for their local or broader community.

Judges from Toronto Rotary had a very difficult decision to make in determining the best of the proposals.

The winning businesses were:

Seeds of Education with a plan to bring practical environmental education to skills as they install and support learning through new gardens in schools.

Pineapple Industries who have the idea to provide new work experience opportunities through VR software development.

Good luck to both companies as they head to Sydney in January to progress their ideas further with Atlassian - Australia's largest software company.

Thanks to Toronto Rotary for their judging, Youth Change Agents for facilitating the program and Atlassian for sponsoring the next stage.



Our New App Is Here!

Apple devices only need to update our App in the Apple iTunes Store to get the new and improved App.

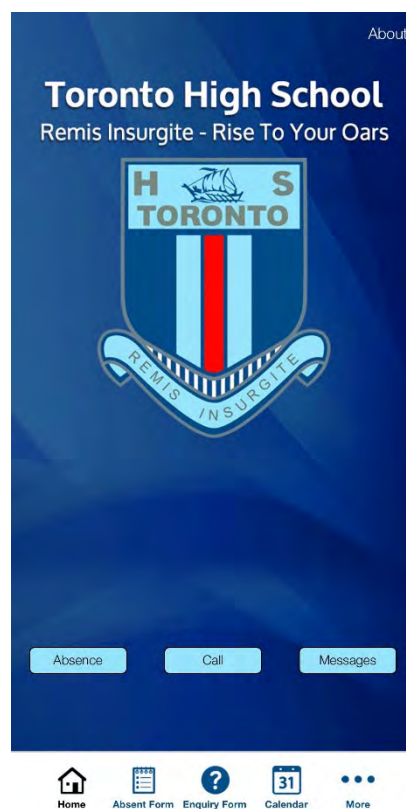
Android users will need to delete the old THS App from the device and download the new App from Google Play store called Toronto High School App

Don't forget to add the word 'App' on the end of our name.

Toronto High School App will allow you to instantly access our newsletters, canteen specials, upcoming events, important messages, canteen/uniform price lists, student and parent portal, student absence notes, plus much, much more!

You can also use this link to download THS App

<http://cms.yourphoneapp.com.au/promo/torontoh>



Carey Bay/Toronto Scout Group has reopened.

**Are your children interested in having fun, doing
lots of outdoor adventure and meeting new friends?**

Come and join us!!

**Joey Scouts (5-8yrs), Cub Scouts (8-11yrs), Scouts
(11-14yrs) & Venturers ((14-17yrs)**

**We meet at the Scout Hall,
74 Excelsior Pde Toronto.**

For more information please contact

Diane via email: akela_diane@bigpond.com



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