



# YASS HIGH SCHOOL

We value respect, responsibility, safety and learning.

Principal: Sandra Hiscock

Relieving Deputy Principal: Ruth Riach

## From the Principal

**Partners in Learning Parent Feedback Survey:** Our school is participating in the Partners in Learning parent survey, part of the department-sponsored Tell Them From Me suite of surveys of students, teachers and parents on student engagement. This survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Responses from this survey will help our school understand parents' perspectives on student experiences at school. Issues will include communication between parents and staff, activities and practices at home and parent views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The link to this survey has been sent home by email: if you haven't received it please contact the school and we'll send it to you [yass-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:yass-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au) I hope you can find time to give us this valuable feedback.



Sept 4th 2015

Senior leaders and the SRC will be inducted to their roles for 2015/16 at our Leadership Assembly to be held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 12.30. Congratulations to new school captains, Alissa Wright and Daniel Kemp, and vice captains, Lucy Bucknell and Edward Hinch. Many thanks to all those Year 11 students who put themselves forward for these positions in an impressively professional manner. Jasmin Jones, Yass Valley Youth Councillor, will lead the captains in the Oath of Commitment as part of this celebration.

NAPLAN Data released last week shows improvement across the board for most students. Our Reading, Writing and Numeracy results in Year 9 reveal a strong upward trend compared to both like schools and the state. As usual the figures indicate areas requiring further attention which will result in appropriate adjustments to whole school programs and teaching approaches.

It is particularly pleasing to receive incidental praise for our students when they represent the school at competitions or on excursions and outings. Over the last fortnight I've received heartening phone calls and email feedback on the impressive behaviour and presentation of YHS students at the Science and Engineering Challenge, the Year 9 and Year 10 History excursions to the War Memorial, the Sculpture excursion, the Year 7 Medieval Day, the SRC and Art Camps and the Year 12 Study Days as well as the Year 12 student volunteer blood donors. I would like to thank the students involved and, in particular, express our appreciation to the teachers who have put so much time and effort into organising such worthwhile and enjoyable learning experiences which are detailed elsewhere in InTouch.



## Knitting for Nepal

As a result of the devastating earthquakes that hit Nepal earlier in the year we have been “Knitting for Nepal”. Students, teachers and community members have been knitting squares which have been joined together to make blankets for the survivors of those earthquakes. Wool and knitting needles have been donated by members of the community as well as students and their families.

Squares have been sent in and Mrs Lois Percival has been spending countless hours sewing all the squares together to make blankets for adults, children and babies. Some of the Community students have had knitting lessons with residents at Thomas Eccles Garden which has been an enjoyable experience for all those involved. We are hoping to get our first lot of blankets over to Nepal very soon.

If you would like to assist our students in their endeavour to make as many blankets as they can please feel free to knit a square or two and drop them into school. All help would be greatly appreciated.



## Come to Dinner

A great time was had at the annual Come to Dinner in Canberra recently, which was attended by many of our indigenous students and their parents. The dinner is organized by the Australian Catholic University, and celebrates and encourages indigenous education.

Tyahn Bell was a wonderful ambassador of our school and our community, delivering Welcome to Country at the beginning of the evening. Travis and Jayden Ginders wowed the large audience with a performance on their didgeridoos, which is always a treat to hear. We ate lovely food and listened to inspirational speakers, and we are looking forward to doing it all again next year.

## Captain's Corner

Only a couple of weeks to go folks. And boy, these last few weeks are pretty full indeed. As I'm sure all of you know, our Year 11's are preparing for their end of year exams next week, so good luck to all of you guys. Also, as the term winds down, it brings an end to the Year 12's time at school, so if you see any breaking down, that's probably why (haha). Feel free to give us a friendly smile and try not to miss us too much. You'll be able to say all of your goodbyes at our graduation ceremony which is coming up. And also a big congratulations to the new captains! You've got a wonderful team of four that are chomping at the bit to take over, and while we can't promise they'll be as good as us, we're sure they'll do just fine (wink wink). We've got an official induction ceremony coming up just for those guys, so be sure to be nice.



This week is also very special in that it is SASS week, where we recognise all the hard and often thankless work that the support staff do around the school. This includes cleaners, the office ladies, GA and support staff in the Library, Food Tech and Science areas. Feel free to give them a smile or a thanks, we're sure they'll appreciate it. Although they're not actually teachers, we'd like to thank the SASS staff in our own way by making them all joint Teachers of The Week. Thank you for all you do.

And lastly, the much-awaited Joke of the Week.

Why did the cleaner die?

Because he kicked the bucket!

## Year 12 Biology Blood Bank Excursion

Last Friday, the 28<sup>th</sup> of August, Yass High's Year 12 Biology class did a trip to the Red Cross Blood Bank in Canberra to learn about the components that are extracted from donated blood and also to donate some of our own blood. Seven people from our class pulled up their sleeves to save lives and the rest of the class got a tour of what goes on behind the scenes at a blood bank, and got to learn about donating blood along the way.

One in three people will need donated blood some stage in their lives, yet only 1 in 30 donates blood. This is a statistic that we are keen to help improve.

On the wall at the Red Cross blood bank, there was a picture of three children; Jesse, Katiah-Ann and Sonny, who due to their auto immune disease, require plasma treatments every three to four weeks. This is a significant reminder that every blood donation can save three lives.

The majority of red blood cells go to cancer patients (approximately 34% of it), as well as people who are suffering from traumatic accidents, burns and those undergoing surgery. Other components extracted from donated blood include plasma, which contains important proteins, nutrients and clotting factors; and platelets, which ensure our blood can clot when needed.

### Guess the weight of BUNDY?

Use the link on the Yass High School website to enter your estimation for the weight of Bundy.

As part of National Numeracy week the students at Yass High School are investigating interesting facts about numbers. The weight of Bundy will be revealed in the next edition of Intouch and a fascinating part of number theory explained.



## Australian War Memorial

As part of their study into World War I & II for History, students from Years 9 & 10 visited the Australian War Memorial on the 17th and 21st of August. After a short bus ride from school, the students were brought inside the facility and given a short introduction by the friendly members of the Memorial centre before being split into groups.



During the first guided tour, students were given the opportunity to ask questions from their knowledgeable tour guides and interact with the amazing exhibits held by the War Memorial, including the recently acquired 'Mephisto' (A7V Sturmpanzerwagen) World War I German tank.

This amazing example of a World War I tank is one of only 20 that were ever produced and is the only surviving example in the world!

The second guided tour session allowed students to understand a little more about World War II history, through the many stories of bravery and heroism that emerged from that bloody conflict.

Our tour guides each gave us a lanyard with some biographical information about Australian soldiers then explained what happened to them after they returned from the war. It was an interesting insight into what effect the conflict had had on our troops and what actions they had taken to survive during the war.

The remainder of the tour involved a brief overview of Australia's 'Z Force' (what would now be considered the SAS forces) and Operation Jaywick, the infiltration of Japanese occupied Singapore during September 1943.

Special thanks to Ms McQueen, Ms Ventralla & Mr Buffington for their assistance throughout the day.

## Science and Engineering Super Challenge

On Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August, having already won the Southern Tablelands Regional Science and Engineering Challenge, 30 Year 9 and 10 students from Yass High boarded a bus and travelled to Newcastle to take part in the NSW State Super Challenge. The six hour trip was punctuated by crispy crème donuts and lunchtime burgers and finished at the Newcastle Beach YHA. To stretch our legs after the trip, a walk to and along the local beach made for a good afternoon. The day finished with pizza, pool, piano, a movie and poker.

On Thursday the bus took us to Newcastle University, where a 10 minute drive was necessary to get us from the entrance to the Forum where the challenge was to take place. Our students competed against 7 other schools, including private and selective high schools. The challenges included designing, building and testing a catapult, a hovercraft, a bionic hand, a bridge, an ecohabitat for humans in the Antarctic, a power supply system for a new city, a tower that could stand up to earthquakes and a high speed rail network.

Yass students worked hard and creatively and enjoyed their day. In the bridge testing, which was the final event, our bridge supported 5 masses before breaking, a feat which was beaten by only 2 others. Teachers from other schools commented on our positive attitudes and work ethic. We didn't come first, but neither did we come last on the day.

We then spent the evening travelling back from a sunny, warm Newcastle to a damp and cool Yass.



## Sculpture In The Paddock 2015

The wonderful world of sculpture opened the eyes of twenty year nine and ten students last Friday and Monday and Tuesday this week, made possible with funding from the National Trust (who own Cooma Cottage) to raise awareness of sculpture and art.

We were fortunate to have guest sculptors Suzie Bleach, Andy Townsend and Al Phemister along for a two day workshop here at school after an inspirational



Sculpture walk and talk through the National Gallery of Australia (the NGA) and the sculpture workshop at Australian National University (the ANU). All three work with steel as well as other materials.

*“Although at first appearances hard, cold and inflexible, steel has the potential to be the opposite. As we explore themes associated with mankind - from migration and mining to mortality - steel, contrived by human ingenuity from ingredients found naturally, seems an appropriately expressive material for our sculptures.”*

*Suzie Bleach and Andrew Townsend April 2015*

At the gallery Andy and Suzie asked questions, told stories about the worlds of the artists and their artworks to an appreciative audience of our students who used their mini sketchbooks and pencils given to them to make notes and thumb sketches of ideas and appealing works. After morning tea in the sculpture garden we went to the ANU to talk with students about their artwork and hear from one of the workshop teachers.

We saw lots of different sculptures, made with traditional and non-traditional materials and different methods from silicone and plaster casting to investing with bronze and cement fondue to mention a few. Students were set up for a critique with their peers and teachers, which is one method of assessment used at the art school. They talked about the varied skills they have learnt and the many surprising vocations that can open up for students completing the courses available.





The following Monday a two day workshop started in earnest with lots of soapstone, a smorgasbord of wire, plaster bandage plus lots of chisels and drills (thank you to Mr Hansson and Al Phemister). What followed was lots of sawing, drilling, chiselling, heating, sanding and polishing with the soapstone and snipping, measuring, joining, taping and plastering and covering – loads of fun

discovering what lay hidden within the stone or a balancing act with wire and pliers. See the results for yourself at SITP open from Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> till October 11<sup>th</sup> at Cooma Cottage. So get out there in your holidays and have a look at both the indoor (student work) and outdoor sculptures (by artists from all over the region and Australia).

“It was such a great workshop. I learnt so much more about art and sculpture. Suzie, Andy and Al were all a great help, but Suzie was such a character, everyone had a great connection with her.” Abi Grear

“The workshop was great, especially Suzie who made things fun and taught us a lot about what we can do with sculpture.” Sarah Hearne



## Community Studies Activities

Yass High School's community classes have had a busy term involving themselves in a number of worthwhile causes to support members of their community and communities abroad. Our school can be extremely proud of these fine young people who are always willing to lend a hand to help others out.



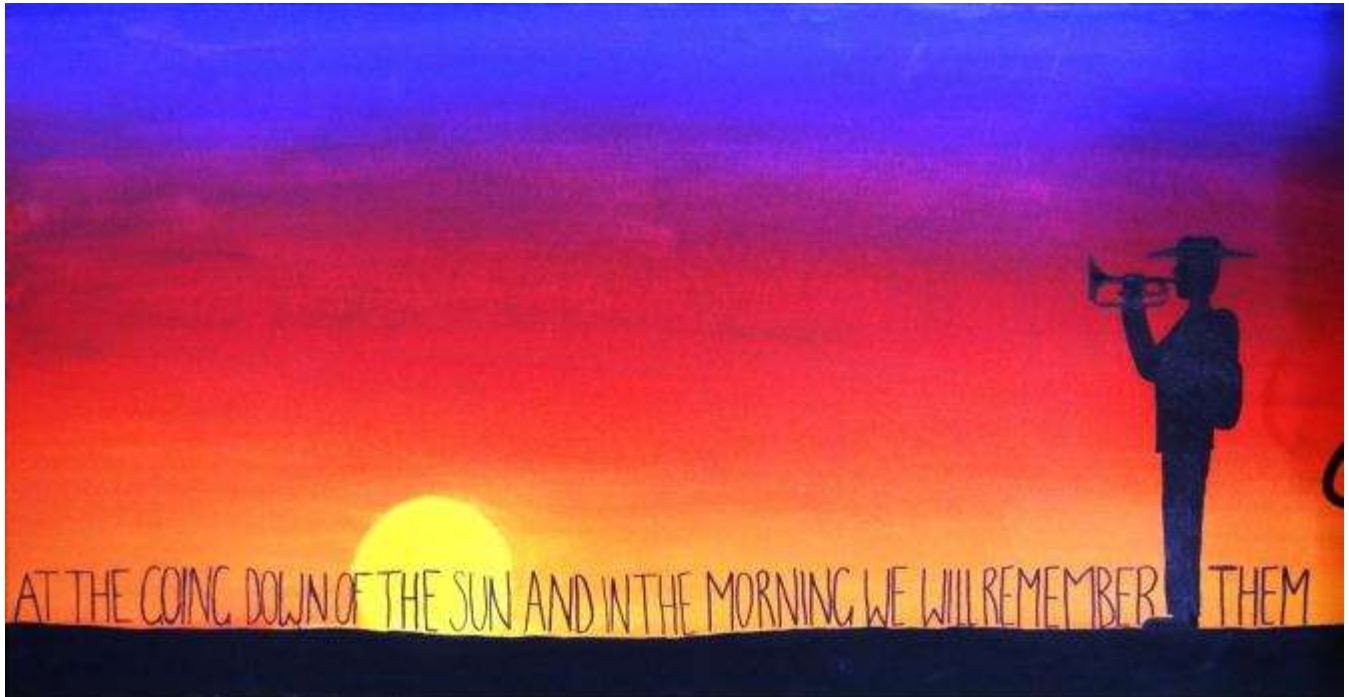
On Friday the 28<sup>th</sup> of August the Year 10 Community class spent the day down the main street of Yass and at Woolworths selling merchandise to raise money for the cancer council as part of their Daffodil Day. We sold a variety of things such as pens, pins, fridge magnets and teddy bears.



The community was very generous and willing to donate for such a good cause. We sold just under \$3,000 worth of merchandise. The money that was donated will be helpful in various ways. It will help with ground breaking research to prevent, diagnose and treat cancer, pay overdue bills for patients who are unable to work and many other things that will help us get another step closer to the defeat of cancer. We all live in hope for the day when cancer will just be a zodiac sign.



As part of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ANZAC landing this year the two Community classes have been designing and painting artwork to say "Thank You" to all those who have served and sacrificed for us to live in freedom. Some of the students attended the special morning tea held at Thomas Eccles Garden to commemorate VP day on August 14<sup>th</sup> and they presented the veterans with some of the paintings which will be displayed at the centre. Other artwork will be displayed in various locations around the Yass community.



**Yass High School  
Student of the Week  
September 2015**



**Zane Morgan  
Year 8**

**For Supporting HSC  
Music Students**

**Yass High School  
Students of the Week  
September 2015**



**Daniel Jones, Lachlan Butler  
Daniel Kemp, Edward Hinch**

**Year 11  
For Contribution to  
Leadership**

**Yass High School  
Students of the Week  
September 2015**



**Alyssa Wright, Brodi Smith  
Emily Parker, Marley Puckett  
Lucy Bucknell**

**Year 11  
For Contribution to  
Leadership**

Redbacks



**YASS FOOTBALL CLUB INC**

# **SUMMER FOOTBALL REGO DAY**

*Kindergarten to Year 12*

**WEDNESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

**4-6 pm**

**@ WALKER PARK**

In the Change Rooms

**2015 Seniors Summer Comp**



Info [www.yassfc.com.au](http://www.yassfc.com.au)



**YASS REAL ESTATE**

"When Experience Matters"

**Narrangullen**

Gold summer sponsor

Bronze summer sponsor



1 <sup>ST</sup> & 2 <sup>ND</sup> player (same family)	\$50.00 per player
Additional family members	\$25.00 per player
Seniors Comp	\$30.00 per player



Registration forms available from [www.yassfc.com.au](http://www.yassfc.com.au)

Enquiries	Jodie Gallagher	0400 260 172
	Drew Gallagher	0408 633 143

Redbacks



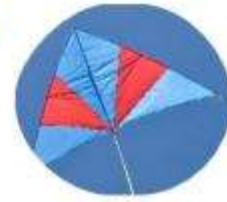


# COMPETITIONS

proudly sponsored by



*Give it your best.*



10  
YEARS

Enter any Sibelco Australia competition for your name to be automatically entered into the draw to win \$100  
**JUDGE'S DECISION WILL BE FINAL – NO FISHING LINE TO BE USED \***

Competition Prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> \$50, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$30, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$20

**Junior Competitions: 12yrs and under**

**Teens Competitions: 13yrs to 19yrs**

**11:00am: Odds & Ends challenge opens - Open**

Build a kite from our odds & ends box. You have all day to construct a kite to take part in the last competition of the day.

**11:30am: Best home-made Kite - Junior & Teens.**

Made from any material, any size & shape. Kite must fly.  
(Must be the work of entrant)

**12 noon: Family Relay - teams of four** (must include one adult)

First two teams over the line, keeping kite continually flying at all times including changeover, will be judged the winners.

Relay Prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> \$100, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$50

**12:45pm: Kite in a Barrel - Teens & Adults**

A test of precision flying against the clock. We provide the kite and you fly and drop it into a barrel in the stipulated time.

**1:30pm: Ducks-in-a-Row World Record Challenge**

Bring your supplied duck or get one at the Competition Tent, sign it with your name and date and be part of the record.

**3:00pm: Kites with longest tail - Open**

Tail must be completely off ground for approved time.  
Extra tails available at comp tent.  
(no wool/string only tails) Prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> \$50, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$30

**Odds & Ends challenge closes**

Time is up for constructing your kite. First to fly wins.


**3:10pm: COMPETITION & GATE DRAWS**

First name to be drawn out of barrel will be the winner.

**Sibelco Australia Lucky Kite Draw WIN \$100**

**Bendigo Bank Lucky Gate Draw WIN \$100**



PICK UP YOUR  **Bendigo Bank** LUCKY GATE ENTRY  
COMP ENTRY BOX IS AT THE  **Bendigo Bank** TENT  
(One entry per person).

\* Conditions apply to all comps, please visit the Competition Tent to register.

# **YASS JUNIOR CRICKET REGISTRATION DAY Season 2015/16**

**Saturday 12 September 2015**

**9.30am to 12pm @ Victoria Park, Yass**

**(Registrations also taken online)**

## **3 FORMS OF CRICKET AVAILABLE**

### **1) Milo In2 CRICKET - 4/5year olds to 9/10 year olds**

All participants receive:

An exciting giveaway pack exclusive to the program which includes a MILO In2 Cricket bat, cricket ball, carry bag, T-shirt, bucket hat and more!

### **2) T20 BLAST**

To fill the gap between Milo In2 cricket and Weston Shield, a new form of cricket based on T20. Participants also receive an exciting giveaway pack.

### **3) WESTON SHEILD - Competition for 9/10 year olds to 14 y/o**

#### **Further information :**

For more information on all 3 forms of cricket please visit the website.

[www.yassjca.nsw.cricket.com.au](http://www.yassjca.nsw.cricket.com.au)

**Email:** [yassjuniorcricket@hotmail.com](mailto:yassjuniorcricket@hotmail.com)



## Coming Events

Date	Event
Mon 7/9	Scripture
Mon 7/9	P&C Meeting 7.00pm. All Welcome
Mon – Fri 7 – 11/9	VALID Science Week Year 10
Tue 8/9	Leadership Assembly 12.25 in the Hall
Wed 9/9	CIT Visit
Wed 9/9 – Thur 17/9	Preliminary Examinations begin
Thur 10/9	Year 7 – 11 Sport Choices Due
Fri 11/9	Harden Show
Mon 14/9- Wed 16/9	Cowra Show
Fri 18/9	Year 12 Assembly 10:00 am. Last Day Term 3
Fri 16/10	Pink Day
Thur 10/12	Presentation Night
<a href="#">Click on the school website for the online calendar</a>	
<a href="#">Remember Assessment tasks dates due are available on school website assessment calendars</a>	